

We hope you enjoy June'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.

## Message from the Principal

### *June Newsletter*

#### *Information for students and parents*

I am a firm believer that success breeds success. Every year our students watch those who have gone before and set themselves ever more challenging goals and benchmarks spurred on by the achievements of those who they have seen go before them. It is exciting to see this, again and again, translated into individual success and success for us as a school.

This year our success in the **Language Perfect World Championships** was a step up from our already outstanding achievements in 2012. The numbers of students participating in **ICAS** competitions continues to grow and there are some very impressive science and technology projects being undertaken for various competitions.

Our debaters too have further raised the bar this year. Our 5 teams were all competing for top spots this year and we have one unbeaten team in the regional competition who now progress automatically to the Auckland wide finals and two other teams still with a chance of joining them. In achieving this we have won hard fought victories over elite schools, whom in our first year, we would never have dreamed of beating.

Our recent **Talent Quest** was polished and impressive and showcased the amazing talent of our students. In last week's **Wearable Arts Awards** we once again had a category winner, an incredible achievement for Year 10 students who have chosen this as a DEEP option when other

### OUR VISION

*"Growing greatness through innovative, constantly evolving personalised learning..."*





## Upcoming Events

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

### EBBA Basketball

Thursday 4th July

### Spanish Field Trip to Ponsonby

Thursday 4th July

### Inter Whanau Lunchtime Competition

Wednesday 10th July

### Yr 7/8 Maths Problem Solving

Thursday 11th July

### MHJC Term 2 Celebration Assemblies

**Water & Mountains:** 9.00am

**Coast & Forest:** 10.00am

Tuesday 9th July

### Disco & Mufti Day

Thursday 11th July

### EBBA Basketball

Thursday 11th July

### Trees for Survival Planting Day

Friday 12th July

### Term 2 Ends

Friday 12th July is the last day of Term (10 Week Term)

### Term 3 Starts

Monday 29th July

### 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)

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

competitors are senior students completing their garments as part of a senior NCEA course.

In the sporting arena our sports teams now regularly give us cause to celebrate as they register victories weekly in their respective codes. Our young people are also impressing as leaders both within the school and the community, often bench marking their expectations of themselves against much older students. They do not disappoint.

I want our students to be aspirational, to dream big dreams and to aim high. Through their efforts and the wonderful support of their teachers and parents we are certainly seeing this happen.

Regards,

**Joan Middlemiss**

## Young Leaders Convention: Singapore



Pictured: (left) Young Leader delegates from the Hwa Chong Institute farewell MHJC students at the Singapore airport.

Pictured: (right) Students Lucy Lu, Nick Lang, Asha Shashikumar, Harish Narasimhan and Louise Kim model their freshly decorated participants T-shirts.

## MHJC Students Attend Young Leaders Conference in Singapore

Singapore's Hwa Chong Institution, in partnership with Nanyang Girls High School, once again hosted the Student Leaders Convention from the 4th to the 7th of June. This year, Mission Heights Junior College had the honour of sending five representatives from the Student Executive Council to be the voice of New Zealand. Louise Kim (10C2), Nick Lang (10C2), Lucy Lu (10W1), Harish Narasimhan (10C2) and Asha



### **MHJC Family & Friends** What's Coming Up?

The Family and Friends have organised a parent information evening on Wednesday 7th August, in the school staffroom. The theme that will be presented is...

**'MHJC Progress & Achievement'**  
with a visiting speaker from  
Ormiston Senior College.

We hope you can join us from  
7.00pm, on 7th August!

## **2013 SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTIONS**

Congratulations to our newly elected parent and staff representatives on the MHJC Board of Trustees:

**Jeff Coyle**  
**Tougheeda Hartley**  
**Shona Tai**  
**Blair Telfer**  
**Alanna Young**  
**Dave Foster**

*(Continues as a co-opted member  
of the Board)*

**Catherine Hunter**  
*(Staff Rep)*

The Election of Officers took place during the first meeting of the new Board, on Wednesday 26th June. Congratulations to:

Chair Person: **Alanna Young**  
Deputy Chair Person: **Jeff Coyle**

**Shashikumar (10C2)** were the five deserving delegates who represented the school in the **19th Student Leaders Convention**.

Singapore provided learning experiences students say they will cherish for a lifetime. The four days saw them meeting hundreds of people from all walks of life, opening their eyes to what lays beyond our Mission Heights community. The convention presented our students with the opportunity to come together with peers to discuss issues associated with the millennial generation and the 21<sup>st</sup> century, where students are connected through technology.

Our MHJC students reported that the **19th Student Leaders Convention** showed them that what they can decide to become as a generation is entirely up to them; they have the choice to shape what legacy they will create. They could stay within their comfort zones, oblivious to the changes that occur around them, or have the ability to let their present environment shape them as people.



Pictured: Karina Gesmundo, (second from the right) pictured with other 2013 Youth Declaration delegates.

### **Mission Heights Represented at UN Youth Declaration**

During the Term One school holidays, Karina Gesmundo, a Year 10 student, participated in an event created by **UN Youth NZ**, called **Youth Declaration**. It was an intense 4 day conference in which secondary students from all over New Zealand came together in the **University of Auckland** to discuss different focus areas that mattered to public policy making in the country.

Karina was placed in the focus group, Education, and had an enriching experience, talking about topics like the NZ decile system, further integration of technology into public schools, visiting the **Education Review Office** for our outreach, learning about the NZ education system and other systems in effect worldwide.



### **Biking DEEP Promotes Safety in the Community**

MHJC's Biking DEEP, led by Mr Vivashal Singh, is working to raise awareness of how to cycle safely on New Zealand roads. The DEEP course, which is a combination of practical skills and knowledge, ensures MHJC cyclists are familiar with the road code, signalling techniques and general road safety. Students also have the opportunity to consider transport options for a sustainable future.



### **MHJC Senior Girls Football Team on a Winning Streak**

The Year 9 and 10 Girls Football season has been a successful one so far! With six games completed to date, they have won four matches, drawn one and lost one.

The team's standout scorer is **Crystal Noun** from Forest Whanau. The girls now have an unbeaten streak of 4 games. Thank you to their coach **Mr Noun** for coaching, Managers **Miss Catherine Hunter** and **Clinton Nair**.

Overall, it was an incredible experience for learning and meeting people. Karina would highly encourage MHJC students to get involved in such activities where they can help out and make a difference in their community. She also, would recommend that others, especially Year 9 and 10 students, would benefit from participating in UN Youth events in the future.

### **Students 'Make A Difference' Through Community Projects**



Pictured: Members of our '*Make A Difference*' DEEP, led by Mrs Uluka Singh, pictured presenting gifts for new born and child patients at Starship Hospital, to Mrs Liaine Warneford.

During Term 1, MHJC's *Make A Difference* DEEP class selected to assist **Starship Hospital** as their local community project. Active research was implemented where students called the hospital and spoke frequently to human resources personnel to gain advice on the needs and special gifts the hospital would prefer, that would assist new born and child patients.

Based on Starship's wish list online and advice the class was thereafter teamed into two groups so that fund raising initiatives





#### **Ruben's in Winning Form**

Ruben Van der Merwe's North Shore squash team have recently won the Auckland Regional Squash Super Champs competition, which was held at Browns Bay Squash Club.

They have now qualified and will be heading to Tauranga during term three to compete against some of the greatest teams of his division in New Zealand. We wish Ruben all the very best of luck for this tournament.

## **Short Story Competition**

Entries for MHJC's Short Story Competition have now closed and judging is currently taking place with Mrs Kate Wood.

Students were encouraged to write on any theme + genre of their choosing, and enter it under the following category...

**Junior Author [Years 7 and 8]**

**Senior Author [Years 9 and 10]**

**Junior Co-Authored story**

**Senior Co-Authored story**

Mrs Wood looks forward to announcing the winner's of this year's short story writing competition shortly.

could be implemented.

**Team: 'Little Miracles'** raised funds through ice cream sales and collected \$110. With this they purchased 7 premature baby clothes, 6 blankets and 6 face-clothes.

**Team: 'Toys for Stars'** raised \$220 through cake sales and purchased a trolley full of educational toys.

Students sourced these items online from Kmart and The Warehouse, and preselected what items they would purchase. The toys, clothes and blankets were delivered to Mrs Liaine Warneford, a Starship representative on April 16, by Brenda Ngo, Jennifer Ho and Trina Lagera.

This on-hands experience was enlightening for our students as Lianine explained that the toys would benefit all children that stay over at the hospital. The clothing will be given to premature babies to keep as gifts.

## **MHJC Sports Update**



Pictured: Members of MHJC's Senior Football Team.

#### **MHJC Senior Boys Football Team Undefeated this Season**

The Senior Boys Football season is well underway, and what a start the boys have made after a promotion from the success of previous seasons to the 'Junior A' League.

With 4 games played and 4 wins, the boys are showing steady improvement during each game. Mr David Nutt and Mr Tashi Hishey are excited at the prospect of what the squad can achieve this season. We wish our Senior Boys Football team all the very best for the rest of the season!



**MHJC 2013  
YEAR 9 & 10  
SPELLING BEE**

### MHJC's Super Spellers

On Friday 28th June, Year 9 & 10 students from Mission Heights Junior College participated in the Vegemite Spelling Bee Competition.

We await to learn whether our students will be invited to attend one of the five Regional Spelling Bees. The Upper North Island Regional Spelling Bee will be held in Auckland on Monday the 19th August.

Congratulations to our top spellers, who displayed impressive accuracy during testing of the 50 seen plus 50 unseen advanced spelling word list:

#### 1st Place:

Karina Gesmundo: 94%

#### 2nd Place:

Jessa Ilano: 82%

#### 3rd Place:

Helen Ma: 80%



This week we celebrate Māori Language Week at MHJC. In 2013, we will be celebrating Māori language and culture in many ways, including a Language Perfect '2013 Māori Language Competition'. This competition is



Pictured: Members of MHJC's Yr 7 Eastern Zone Football Team.

### Year 7 SEZ Football Tournament

On Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, the Year 7 MHJC Football Team participated in the South Eastern Zone Football Tournament at Saint Kentigern College. The squad of 15 players was led by captain, Iain Smith and co-captain Allen Ye.

At the tournament there were 12 other teams. MHJC had their first game against Bucklands Beach Intermediate. Both teams played well and were playing aggressively but in the end BBI was slightly stronger. MHJC then played against Ferguson Intermediate. Even though they were bigger and stronger, MHJC played the ball on the ground and successfully won the game 2-0. After this MHJC moved onto playing the quarter-final against Somerville Intermediate. Somerville was a very strong team and defeated MHJC. This led to their match against neighbouring school, Sancta Maria College. After an outstanding performance by all players, the match came to an end and the score was 4-1 to MHJC. The boys then played against Pakuranga Intermediate for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place. Following a demanding match MHJC won and was awarded 5<sup>th</sup> place out of 12 teams.

### MHJC are Southern Zone Debating Champions!



just for students of **Mission Heights Junior College, Mission Heights Primary and Ormiston Senior College.**

The **'2013 Māori Language Competition'** runs from Monday, July 1st through to Sunday, July 7th. Students are encouraged to click on the following link...

<http://www.languageperfect.com/c/#MHM> ...then sign in with their usual Language Perfect log-on:

**MHJCYourName** and then their **Password**, which is their first name.

Only points earned in Māori count for this competition.

There are individual, class and school awards up for winning, including:

- The top class wins a \$100 pizza party.
- Every student who earns at least 50 points in Māori goes into the draw for a 2B Ipod shuffle.
- Each 50 points students earn gets them another entry.
- Certificates and glory for being the best speakers of te reo Māori in the Mission Heights family!



Back Row: Rashmeen Sandhu, Taegan Singh, Layla Abada, Rylee Fraser, Steven Guo, Anthony Hua, Joshua Fifita-Lamb and Sartaj Bedi.

Middle: Elaina Hea, Cailey Dayu, Insaaf Hartley, Sasha Amichand, Courtney Powell, Nishalia Maharaj, Akshay Kakkar and Dylan Townsend.

Front Row: Sanara Swarnadhipathi, Neesha Kumar, Nick Lang, Teacher Mrs Reshmika Lal, Louise Kim, Asha Shashikumar and Swashna Lal.

Mission Heights Junior College entered 5 teams into the **Southern Zone Debating Competition**. We are delighted to announce that MHJC topped the score board, with our Year 9 Team progressing on to the **Auckland Regional Debating Champs**.

Our results were:

**1st Place:** MHJC Team 3 (Rylee Fraser, Elaina Hea and Layla Abada)

**3rd = Place:** MHJC Teams 1, 2, 4, and 5

Thank you to **Mrs Reshmika Lal** (coach), **Mr Keith Smith** and **Mrs Lorraine McKenzie** for supporting MHJC's debating teams.



**MHJC WaiCare Group Clean Up Local Reserves**

With the support of the **Auckland Council**, students in MHJC's **Waicare DEEP** took part in a large-scale cleanup of our local reserve on Valderama Drive recently. With help from the **Manukau Beautification Trust**, our students safely removed dumped TVs, tyres, garden waste and even a discarded dog kennel, leaving the area clean and tidy.

Unfortunately, more rubbish has already been dumped back on the site after our cleanup! Help keep our area tidy - if you see dumping in our streams go to [www.waicare.org.nz](http://www.waicare.org.nz) for information on how to report it, or call the **Pollution Hotline** on 09 377 3107. This service is owned by **Auckland Council** and is open 24/7.

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## Visual and Performing Arts

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**Pictured:** Ethan Korewha (with sister Chenae), in NYTC's recent production of 'Grease'.

## Ethan Takes to the Stage for Grease

Congratulations to Ethan Korewha for his recent involvement in the National Youth Theatre Company production of 'Grease', held at the Aotea Centre. Ethan has been in the last three NYTC productions: **Joseph**, **Pinocchio** and **Grease**. The next production is **Aladdin**, showing in November.



'ART TO  
WHERE'  
2013



Above: MHJC models preparing to showcase their garments.

**Left: Leena Fong** modelling her garment, 'Life Lines'.

**Right:** Top model, **Sinead Venter** in 'Shadowed Golden Flower'.

## MHJC Wearable Arts Design Teams Impress at 'Art to Where' Competition

For the past 4 years students from our school have been involved in designing wearable arts garments and modeling them for the **Botany Secondary College** production of 'Art to Where'.

Ten MHJC garments were recently entered with over 40 students involved in the designing, making and modeling. Students developed their designs and entered categories such as: 'Reclaim', 'Around the World', 'In the Pink' (fashionable support of the breast cancer foundation, 'Off the Page' and 'Avant Garde'.

MHJC students **Leena Fong, Amy Ma and Emmaly Neal** won the **Avante Garde** category, with Leena modelling the garment beautifully. **Sinead Venter** won the prize for the best model. Congratulations to the design teams and their models. Proceeds from the show went to the Breast Cancer Foundation.



### MHJC Teacher Selected for Training in Osaka

One of our language teachers, Ms Trudi Wigg has been selected to participate in a two-week long Kansai Special Programme in Osaka, Japan for New Zealand teachers of Japanese

This programme incorporates sessions on Japanese culture, introduction of Japanese teaching materials, language and culture resources, activity based PD (including an Osaka orientation, homestay, and school visit).

This initiative is designed to provide immersion in language and culture for teachers so that they can maintain Japanese classrooms that are current in terms of both teaching practice, and Japanese culture and society, and to enable teachers to keep their own spoken levels of Japanese at a high standard. The course is run by the Japan Foundation through ILEP (International Languages Exchanges and Pathways) and is part of the future opportunities stage of the PLD pathway for NZ Language Teachers.



### Fees and School Contribution

Thank you to those families who have paid the school contribution. If you would like to make arrangements to make regular affordable



## MHJC 2013 Talent Quest



MHJC held its School Talent Quest finals on Thursday, 13th June. The preliminary rounds saw 60 students audition with the hope of making it has one of the 12 contestants in the finals. This successful event was well attended by parents, students and staff. After a closely contested competition Crystal Noun placed first, Melvin Puthenparackel, second and Jessa Illano, third. Thank you to Mrs Priscilla Naidoo and our Cultural Council for their amazing efforts in putting this show together.



### Supporting Learners & Learning

We encourage MHJC students to join us for our supervised 'Homework Clubs,' which are held every Tuesday in Water Whanau and Thursday in Mountains Whanau, from 3:00pm to 4:30pm.

automatic payments,  
please contact our school  
reception on 277-7881, or  
contact Ms Pamela Lyness  
[plyness@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:plyness@mhjc.school.nz)

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



## Mountains Whanau Tour Waihi's Martha Mine



Pictured: Mountains Whanau students at the Martha Mine.

Mountains Whanau students got to go behind the scenes at New Zealand's biggest gold mine this term as part of their work on resources and 'The Right Price'. Students enjoyed a bus tour of the Martha Mine, watched blasting and loading operations, and even got to hold a bar of real gold! Akonga (students) also learned about early Pakeha mining history at the Waihi Mining Museum, and the hard life that miners had. They were then able to see the history of New Zealand mining by taking a walk through the stunning Karangahake Gorge, where glow worms light up the old mining tunnels and instead of the thunder of stamper batteries there is now only the sound of the river and fantails in the trees. It was a fascinating trip that took us through the history of mining in this country and has prompted much discussion about how we should use our natural resources.

## COAST '100% PURE' COMMUNITY EXPO



Guest Speaker,  
Auckland City Mission



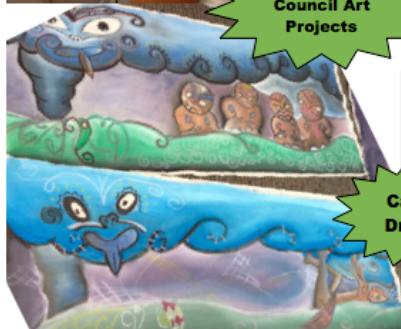
**AUCKLAND CITY MISSION**

Aucklanders helping Aucklanders



BBQ  
Fund-Raiser

Whanau  
Council Scooter  
Rack Technology  
Project



Cans  
Drive



**RED CROSS** Refugee Services



Guest Speakers,  
Red Cross Refugee Services

### Active Citizenship Projects: Focus of 'Expo Day'

As a part of Coast Whanau's learning focus, 'New Zealand: 100% Pure?', students organised a Community Expo on Thursday the 27th of June, complete with guest speakers, quizzes and a range of projects developed by the Whanau Council.

Students opted into a range of active citizenship projects for the day, including a sausage sizzle (with proceeds of over \$500 going to the Mangere Refugee Centre), a 'canned food drive' with donations collected by visitor to MHJC, Liam from the Auckland City Mission, as well as art and technology projects. A productive and fulfilling day was had by all.

**Dress Up  
& JOIN the FUN**



**PURCHASE Your  
Ticket For \$5 at  
the disco**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL  
be ON SALE FROM  
the KITCHEN**

**BRING your Student  
ID card to gain  
entry to the disco**

### **MHJC Term 2 60'S, 70'S, 80'S & 90'S SCHOOL DISCO**

Who?  
When?  
Where?  
How?

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 MHJC students only (ID Cards checked at the door)

Thursday 11th July, 2013. From 7pm to 9:30pm

MHJC Theatre

Parents must drop you off to MHJC then pick you up FROM THE THEATRE at 9.30pm sharp.

Students will NOT be permitted to leave the theatre without an adult, or walk home alone.