

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.

## OUR VISION

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



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### June Newsletter

*Information for students and parents*

As a school we have every reason to feel incredibly proud of our successes. What is inspiring is that each cohort of students that enters the school has so many outstanding examples to look up to and emulate. 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. This translates into amazing individual and team success, and success for us as a school.

Many schools never achieve at international level but at Mission Heights we have again proven that we can do so at the highest levels. This year in the Language Perfect World Championships, MHJC was ranked third in the world from more than 1,100 competing schools and there were many outstanding individual achievements also.

The Project Alert Team has done what only one other New Zealand team has achieved in 40 years in taking the supreme Community Problem Solving Award at the International Future Problem Solving finals in the USA.

Our debaters too continue to build on their outstanding successes of previous years. For the first time, our school took all three top placings in the regional competition. In achieving this we have won hard fought victories over elite schools with many years of history in the competition.

Our recent Talent Quest once again showcased the amazing and diverse talent of our students. Still in the cultural arena MHJC students participated with success in the Festival of Cultural Sharing organised by

## Upcoming Events

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

### Family & Friends Meeting

NCEA Information Evening  
Monday 30th June, 7pm

### MHJC Science Fair

Projects due Friday 25th July  
Judging on Monday 28th July

### SEZ Netball

Tuesday 29th July

### ICAS English Exam

Tuesday 29th July

### OSC Open Evening

Wednesday 30th July

### Inter School Speech Competition

Wednesday 30th July

### MHJC Cross Country

Friday 1st August

### Australian Maths Exam

Monday 4th August

### Coast Yr 8 OSC Visit

Monday 4th August

### Forest Yr 8 OSC Visit

Tuesday 5th August

### MHP Yr 6 Visit MHJC

11:00am to 12:30pm  
Tuesday 5th August

### MHJC Mathex Evening

Wednesday 6th August

### Family & Friends Meeting

Wednesday 6th August, 7pm

### Water Yr 8 OSC Visit

Thursday 7th August

### BOS Yr 6 Visit MHJC

11:00am to 12:30pm  
Thursday 7th August

### Mountains Yr 8 OSC Visit

Friday 8th August

### Manukau Science Fair

Saturday 9th August &  
Sunday 10th August

the local Buddhist Temple and ensured that MHJC were the inaugural winners of the school award.

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.

Our students are aspirational. They are seeing that it is possible to aim high and succeed because we do not limit their aspirations. Through their own efforts and the amazing support they receive from teachers and parents our students are definitely living up to our vision of "growing greatness."

Regards,

**Joan Middlemiss**



Members of the Project Alert Team

Dylan Townsend, Courtney Powell and Cailey Dayu with their coach, Principal Mrs Joan Middlemiss on campus at Iowa State University.

## 'Project Alert' Winners at Community Problem Solving Internationals

The Mission Heights Junior College "Project Alert" team has returned victorious from the International Finals in Iowa, USA. Not only did the team win 1st place in their category with full marks for the onsite component, but also were awarded the supreme Community Problem Solving Award, the E Paul Torrance "Beyonders" Award. Named for the founder of the Future Problem Solving Programme this award is made to a project that "...outdistances the others so far that they are not

### Yr 6 Parent & Student Info Evening

MHJC Library  
Monday 11th August

### ICAS Maths Exam

Tuesday 12th August

### Manukau Science Fair Prize-giving

Wednesday 13th August

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## 2014 Term Dates

### Term 2

Monday 5th May to  
Friday 4th July  
(9 Week Term)

### Term 3

Monday 21st July to  
Friday 26th September  
(10 Week Term)

### Term 4

Monday 13th October to  
Wednesday 10th December  
(9 Week Term)

## 2015 Start-Up Dates

### Compulsory Admin Day

(Parents & students)  
Tuesday 3rd February

### First Day for Yr 7 & 10's

(Yr 7's to Theatre)  
Thursday 5th February

### Waitangi Day Holiday

Friday 6th February

### All Students Return

(Yr 7, 8, 9 & 10's)  
Monday 9th February

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

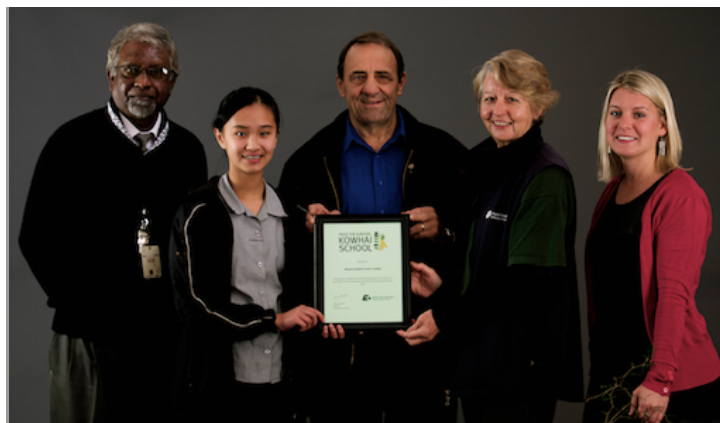


*even on the same scale". It is awarded to a team who have "...demonstrated exceptional depth passion and commitment in the project that goes above and beyond what would normally be expected".*

The team won the award over 61 international teams from all age divisions. This is only the second time the award has been won by a New Zealand team in the 40 year history of the competition.

You may wish to view a short video clip that briefly features Project Alert's winning performance, on [TVNZ On Demand ...](#)

<http://tvnz.co.nz/national-news/kiwi-students-scoop-top-awards-in-iowa-6008852>



### Trees for Survival Kowhai Award

Our Trees for Survival work during 2013 has won MHJC a Kowhai Status Award. Only twelve other schools have this prestigious status.

Representatives from Trees for Survival (Dianne Patterson) and the Rotary Club of East Tamaki (Dave Houghton) were in at the school to present the award to student Angela Wong and teachers Mr Naddy Naidoo and Miss Catherine Hunter. The Rotary Club sponsors the materials used to carry out this programme, including our plant growing unit and potting mix.

### MHJC's 40 Hour Famine Success

Congratulations to all students who participated in the 40 Hour Famine this year. Our three top fundraisers were...

#### 1st Place

Annemeik Vaha'akolo-  
Ngaika

#### 2nd Place

Bianca Langi

#### 3rd Place

Rochelle Narayan



### TravelWise We're Having a "Wheel-ie" Good Time!

Students have participated in many "wheel" activities to promote sustainable travel to school. Recently we have held bike training sessions with 20 students, bike and scooter races as well as a writing competition for a student to win a \$180 scooter!

### Congratulations to Our Competition Winners

#### Bike Race

Krishin Rama

#### Scooter Race

Senior: Dylan Honey

Junior: Caleb Forsyth

#### Writing competition for a new scooter

Christina Bang (below...)



### Mission Heights Students Invited to Write Blogs for Careers NZ Website

In Term 1, 10M2 hosted the Careers NZ CEO and had the opportunity to ask questions about future careers and discuss where they see themselves in 10 years time. Due to their high quality responses, students were asked to each write a blog to be posted on the Careers NZ website. We are now 3 weeks into our Careers NZ blogs. This week showcases Courtney Powell and Dinah Deenoi. Ben Zhao and Cailey Dayu featured last week and Anthony Hua and Adrienne Champion from our very first week. There are two new posts every Friday, so check in often. Have a look and congratulate our students.

<http://blog.careers.govt.nz/>



Pictured: Cailey Dayu's photographic entry for the "Your Auckland" Auckland Festival of Photography 'Nikon Photo Day Competition' is displayed on the MHJC Online Student Art Gallery.

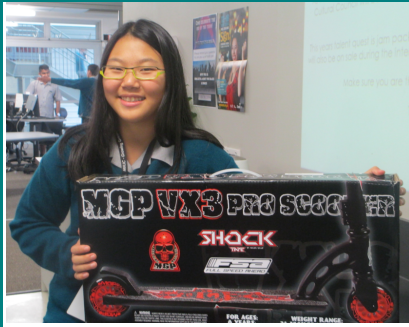
### MHJC Online Student Art Gallery

We now have an active online Student Art Gallery on Mission Heights Online. Please feel free to have a browse through the artworks and keep up with the latest Art Competition entries. The gallery will become more comprehensive over time, but for now we have two exhibitions on display:

- The Nikon Photo Day entries
- The Little Help Project T-Shirt design entries

These artworks were created by students taking the Art Competition DEEP course. The gallery can be viewed through "Quick Links" if you are logged in to MH Online or under "News" if you are not logged in. This gives friends and family the opportunity to see what students have been working on at school.





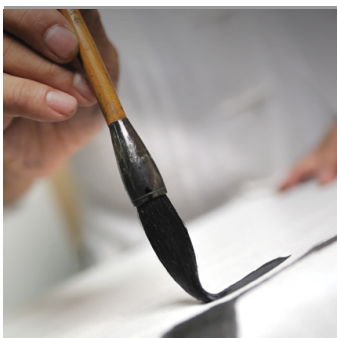
### TravelWise Award Winner

Lynn Han showed dedication and enthusiasm to many school TravelWise activities during Road Safety Week. For her effort, Lynn has won an Student Award from Auckland Transport. She will receive a trophy for her work and will go on a special tour of the Wiri train depot for the new electric trains in Term 3. Congratulations, Lynn!



### Talent Quest Winners Announced

School Talent Quest finals were held on Thursday, 12th June. The preliminary rounds saw almost 50 students audition with the hope of making it as one of the 12 contestants in the finals. This successful event was well attended by parents, students and staff. After a closely contested competition, Sarah Robinson (middle) was placed first, Laila Adaba (left) second and Lita Penitani (right), third. Well done to the cultural council for their amazing efforts putting this show together.



### Chinese Calligraphy Competition

Teacher of Chinese, Mrs Jenny Wang would like to encourage students to participate in a Chinese Calligraphy competition. Entrants are required to write a poem (minimum of 20 words) and hand in work during Week 6 of Term 3.



In response to the recent interest from our parent body, MHJC's Family and Friends are hosting a special 'NCEA Information Evening'.

Many parents, especially those of us who are new to New Zealand, feel daunted when discussions turn to the NCEA. If you want a simple,



### Science Road Show

MHJC's Year 7 and 8 students were in for an explosive treat last Friday as the **Science Roadshow** was hosted at our school. Our students were treated to a fun-but-disgusting demonstration about the digestive system, a presentation about gases that went with such a "bang" we were offered ear defenders and a chance to check out a host of different science experiments, demos and games. All students had an absolute blast and thoroughly enjoyed having the roadshow visit. We hope to see them again soon!



### Festival of Cultural Sharing Art & Writing Competition

Mission Heights Junior College has taken out the top three prizes for the **Festival of Cultural Sharing Art and Writing Competition** at the Buddhist Temple. We

straightforward explanation of how the NCEA works, then this is the event for you! Come along and understand terminology such as 'NCEA credits', 'NCEA standards' and 'levels of NCEA certificates'.

The earlier you understand the NCEA system, the better you can support your child when it *matters most*. Did you know that students at MHJC have the ability to earn NCEA credit points? Don't wait until your child is in year 11 to understand NCEA - understand it now. This evening is relevant to all our parents - whether your child is in Year 7 or Year 10.

Ms Kate Lambert, Principal's Nominee, NZQA, will be presenting the evening. Please join us at **7.00pm, Monday 30th June**, in the MHJC staffroom (note that this is a change from the usual Wednesday evening!) Should your child require supervision during this time, **Coast Whanau** will be open and computers available for homework or eLearning.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

**Family & Friends Committee**  
**Bringing our community together**



### Make a Difference Group - Taking a Stand!

A dedicated group of students from MHJC's **Make a Difference DEEP** class have taken a stand against oil drilling in New Zealand. The team has taken action by completing a collecting drive for signatures from teachers and students whom are firmly against oil drilling in 100% Pure New Zealand. The group has obtained over 200 signatures, in support of Greenpeace's anti-mining campaign.

congratulate the following students...

**1st Place**

Alina Hayat 8M1

**2nd Place**

Lia Arroyo 7W1

**3rd Place**

Avneet Biln 7M2



**Science Fair Reminder**

A friendly reminder that projects for the MHJC Science Fair are due Friday, 25th July (Term 3, Week 1). Projects will be available for viewing the following week. Please see Mr Dion Cowley or Ms Catherine Hunter if you have any questions about the fair.



# LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

19 - 29 MAY 2014

## Language Perfect World Championships

MHJC competed for the third time this year in the annual Language Perfect World Championships. 208 of our students took on over 300,000 students from more than 1150 schools around the world in this competition, which involves online translation challenges of vocabulary in 20 languages and English.

We are proud to share that MHJC came **first in New Zealand** in this competition, and **third in the world**. This is a fantastic achievement, which comes down to dedicated students and the support of staff and families. Of our 208 entrants, an amazing 157 students achieved an award. We won 30 (5% of the total) of the top awards, of which only 606 were allocated worldwide. We were first in the world for Maori, and second for Samoan. We were first in New Zealand for Maori, Italian and Indonesian.

We congratulate all our award winners, but the special achievements we would like to acknowledge are as follows:

Martin Chui  
**MHJC Champion**

Richa Luthra  
**1st in NZ, Italian**

Dinah Deenoi  
**1st in NZ & globally for Thai**

Justin Clayton  
**1st in NZ & globally for Afrikaans**

Water Whanau  
**Top Whanau**

MHJC's achievements were recently featured in the Eastern Courier (article included at the base of this newsletter).





### OSC International Evening Tonight!

Ormiston Senior College warmly invites families to an International Evening tonight, Friday 27th June, 6:30-8:30pm at OSC. For further details, please click on the following link...

[OSC International Evening](#)



We'd love you to follow us on Facebook! Simply click on the Facebook button on our school website.



## Mission Heights Junior College >

**3253 VOTES**

### MHJC Awarded ANZ Netball Grant

Our thanks go out to those of you who supported our recent bid to win some of the \$100,000 pool of grant money offered to Netball in New Zealand by ANZ Courtside. We were delighted to learn earlier this month that we were successful in our campaign, and have been awarded a 'School Gear Grant' worth over \$1100. The gear grant consisted of netball training gear including balls, bibs, a pump and fitness/court training equipment.

This is a boost for the five teams we currently have training and competing. Our successful application, which includes both a video and written statement is located at

<https://www.anzcourtside.co.nz/grant-scheme/gallery/detail.html?id=18671>

### 2014 NZYTM Information

Our school has been invited to take part in a survey funded by the Ministry of Health. Some of our Year 10 students will be asked to fill in a questionnaire about their lifestyles, the things that they do, what they are interested in, and some health-related questions. The rest of our Year 10 students will complete a shorter questionnaire asking just health-related questions. The information provided contributes to both local and national decision-making to do with youth health.

Students' participation is voluntary and they are welcome to ask questions before deciding whether to take part. Everything they write is confidential and anonymous and they will not be asked for any identifying information (eg, they won't be asked for their name, date of birth, etc). Information will be handled in a safe and secure way. If you would like more information about this survey please go to <http://www.hpa.org.nz/what-we-do/nzytm>, or if you have any questions please contact Luma Alaimoana at Research New Zealand on 0800 500 168 or email... [luma.alaimoana@researchnz.com](mailto:luma.alaimoana@researchnz.com)



# CeLebrate!

THE 2014 FIFA WORLD CUP...

THE START OF THE SCHOOL  
HOLIDAYS...

AND THE GREAT GAME OF  
FOOTBALL!

HOW? COME ON DOWN TO MHJC, TO WATCH  
THE QUARTER FINAL ON THE BIG SCREEN WITH  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

WHEN? SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 KICK OFF AT  
8:00AM

WHERE? MHJC Theatre

ENJOY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE, TEA, COFFEE, HOT  
CHOCOLATE FOR ONLY \$2.00 EACH



FIFA WORLD CUP  
BRASIL

## PLUS!!

Meet current ALL WHITES star Tim Payne!! Kids, bring down your soccer balls and t-shirts for an autograph from one of our great up-and-coming All White heroes!



## PLUS!!

For all those football playing boys and girls, we will be running a COEVER Skills Training Session after the game. Places are strictly limited, and are only available to students at MHJC and Mission Heights Primary. Interested students must register at the front office with a \$10 registration payment. Register by this Friday to receive a personalised signed photo from Tim Payne! COEVER skills training is fast becoming one of the most popular methods to develop ball mastery and confidence with the ball. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience COEVER at a subsidised cost. For more information go to [www.coerver.co.nz](http://www.coerver.co.nz)



MHJC's 'Language Perfect' Students Feature in the Eastern Courier

Publishing permissions gained 25/06/14

Go to their website: <http://easterncourier.realviewdigital.com/#folio=2>

# Eastern Courier

stuff.co.nz

YOUR PLACE, YOUR PAPER

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

# Language skills impress

By OLIVIA LANGFORD-LEE

TWO East Auckland schools have proven to be right up there with the rest of the world at the Language Perfect World Championships.

The championships are held online for students of any age up to university level and is run over a 10-day period in May.

Mission Heights Junior College placed first in New Zealand and third in the world with its team of 208 students.

More than 300,000 students from 1150 schools in more than 20 countries competed in the championships, which is run online with an accumulative point system.

Each student can select what languages they would like to focus on with 20 to choose from – they then have to get a word right three times before a point is scored.

The children's scores from each school are tallied up to give the school an overall total.

Mission Heights' Japanese teacher Trudi Wigg says the school has a small number of competitors compared to some others.

"The school that won had 2000 people competing," she says.

Mission Heights Junior College also came first in Maori and second in Samoan in the world.

Yvonne Ruan, 14, an elite competitor scoring more

than 10,000 points, says the school was definitely better than last year and will now set goals to improve for 2015.

"We felt good though because we were the smallest school in the world top 10."

Pakuranga College was also up on the world leaderboard after coming first in the world for Japanese with its 120 competitors.

Japanese teacher Lisa Cumberland says it was the college's fifth consecutive year of being first in the world for the language.

"The goal was to be top of Japanese again so we just focused mainly on that one language."

Students are also individually ranked, with Pakuranga College gaining the individual world winner Jason Wu who got exactly 50,000 points.

The competition is held annually and students use the Language Perfect Programme for online study and exam preparation.



**Talented**, above: Three high-achieving Mission Heights Junior College students who all received elite awards of more than 10,000 points in the Language Perfect World Championships helping the school place third overall. From left: Prabhleen Kaur, 11, Avinash Sathiyaseelan, 13, and Yvonne Ruan, 14.



**High achievers**: Pakuranga College students William Ha, 17, Alecis Dela Cruz, 14, and sister Donamæ Dela Cruz, 17, and Zach Fields, 17, all scored points above 10,000 making them elite level. William Ha scored the highest in the school with more than 18,000 points.



**Perfect**, left: Donamæ Dela Cruz shows how the Language Perfect World Championships worked.

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