

We hope you enjoy March'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

March Newsletter

Information for students and parents

It has been wonderful to see how quickly students have settled into the school year. We have enjoyed welcoming both our returning students and also the many new students and their families as our school continues to grow.

As we look forward to a successful and challenging year ahead in 2013, I also want to acknowledge the very positive achievement and progress made by our students in 2012. E-asTTle post testing showed that our students progressed at a rate well above that of the national cohort. Click here to see our [Annual Report of Student Achievement](#).

Our 2012 Year 10 students embraced the opportunity to become familiar with NCEA across a range of subjects. Unlike many schools, we allow all Year 10 students to experience a limited number of NCEA standards to assist them in transitioning to Year 11. As a result, 89 students will take credits with them to their senior schooling and 53 students gained Merit or Excellence grades. 5 students are already well on the way to Merit or Excellence endorsement, with one student having 20 credits at the required level.

We were also pleased with the results of our past students with 75.3% of the 2011 graduates gaining NCEA Level One, and 32% gaining a Merit or Excellence Endorsement. Any concerns that those students who must move into a standard Year 9 to 13 school environment after Year 10, and 4 years in MHJC's 21st Century schooling environment, may not cope, should be allayed with 92.8% of the students who did so, achieving NCEA Level One and 46% of them achieving either a Merit or Excellence endorsement.

Already this year many of our students have stepped up to take on leadership roles, joined sports teams, and signed up to try new activities and entered, in increasing numbers, for a range of academic competitions. This level of engagement is wonderful and we are proud that our students are challenging themselves and as a result will get the best from their schooling.

We have much to look forward to in 2013.

Regards, **Joan Middlemiss**

OUR VISION

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





Upcoming Events

Dates are also published on our website, [Mission Heights Online](http://MissionHeightsOnline.co.nz).

Junior Maths Comp (Yr 9/10)

Wednesday 20th March

Yr 7/8 SEZ Swimming

Wednesday 20th March at
Howick Intermediate Pool

MHJC Cultural Festival

Saturday 23rd March
From 4pm - 7pm

Water Yr 8 Airport Trip

Monday 25th March

Yr 9/10 Debating

Monday 25th March

MHJC Class/Group Photos

Tuesday 26th March

Easter Break

Friday 29th (holiday)
Monday 1st April (holiday)
Tuesday 2nd April (holiday)

Mufti Day & Disco

Thursday 4th April

Water Year 7 & 10 Leadership Camp

Wednesday 10th to Friday 12th
April

MHJC Hosting SWIFT Forum

International visitors, from
Wednesday 10th to Friday 12th
April

Coast Year 7 & 10 Leadership Camp

Monday 15th to Wednesday 17th
April

Yr 9/10 Debating

Monday 15th April

SEZ Orienteering

Tuesday 16th April

MHJC Celebration Assemblies



Pictured: Executive Council members, Louise and Nick with Auckland Mayor, Len Brown at the reception.

Waitangi Day Garden Reception

On Waitangi Day Year 10 students Louise Kim and Nick Lang joined Mrs Joan Middlemiss in representing Mission Heights Junior College at a garden reception at Government House, Auckland.

The event, which commemorated the 173rd Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, was hosted by the Governor General of New Zealand, Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae and Lady Janine Mateparae.



Enviro Team Growing GREAT 'Trees for Survival'

On Thursday 28th February MHJC's Enviro Group met with Bridget from *Enviroschools* to develop their goals and plan an enviro pathway for 2013. Kate from *Trees For Survival* (Auckland Council) then supported the group to 'pot on' seedlings, which have been growing here at school for the past 5 months. MHJC's Enviro Group, headed by Mrs Hetaraka, currently has 1500 native seedlings growing on site, which they will plant in June of this year.

Introducing Our 2013 Executive Council

Water & Mountains: 9.15am
Coast & Forest: 10am
Thursday 18th April

Term 1 Ends

Friday 19th April last day of
Term (11 Week Term)

Term 2 Starts

Monday 6th May

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



Mission Heights Junior College is proud to be a **Travelwise** school. We therefore encourage students to walk, cycle, scooter or skateboard to school. As traffic around the school is already congested at the start and end of our school day, we ask that parents reinforce our 'walk-to-school' message - if driving please drop your child off so they walk the last 10 minutes of their journey to school!



Back Row: Catherine Huffman, Ramneek Sandhu, Luke Trotter, Harish Narasimhan, Nahtel Soo-Choon and Nick Lang.

2nd Row: Sanara Swarnadhipathi, Neesha Kumar, Arisha Prasad, Louie Manubay, Sasha Amichand, Agampreet Bhatti and Jodie Johns.

Front Row: Louise Kim, Hannah Gomez, Emmaly Neal, Asha Shashikumar, Nishalia Maharaj, Swashna Lal, Lucy Lu and Linda Duong.

The recently selected **Executive Student Council** are pictured during a break at the leadership training seminar they attended with Mrs Middlemiss last week. Council members considered challenging topics such as role modelling and situational leadership and began planning for their 2013 legacy projects. The Council was selected in a demanding process from an outstanding field of 59 candidates.

MHJC Sports Report





Congratulations Courtney

On Sunday 17th February Year 9 student **Courtney Powell** participated in the Botany Town Centre Fun Run. Courtney's time was 27.46 mins, placing her 10th in the 5km Womens Under 40 Years category.

We're Growing! Welcome to New Teachers Joining Mission Heights in 2013



Mr Stefano Cataloni
teaching
Global
Studies &
Business
Studies.



Mr Stephen Collins
teaching
Mathematics.



Mrs Courtenay Kilpatrick
teaching
English &
Written
Literacy.



Mr Fabian Sanchez Navarro
teaching
Global
Studies &
Business

School Swimming Sports

Friday 22nd February saw 11 bus loads of MHJC students descend upon the Lagoon pools in Panmure for the annual MHJC Swimming Sports carnival. Greeted with a stunning day, students were eager to gain participation points for their Whanau and cool off!

Victor Chua and **Justin Tan** indicated from the very first event that they intended to be aquatic champions when they blitzed the field in the Year 7/8 boys 50m freestyle. Victor and Justin would finish 1-2 for all four strokes in the 50m events, as well as the 100m freestyle. Justin lead off and Victor anchored the Coast junior boys relay team to victory on top of their individual efforts.

Connor Stewart was the dominant figure in the senior boys section, winning his five events for Forest as he led home Mountain's **Ben Zhao** in each race.

The junior girls proved an evenly spread affair, with **Annika Pujary** (Coast), **Alexia Beeslaar** (Forest) and **Peyton Mihalek** (Water) splitting wins and placings.

Elaina Hea and **Ivy Capundan** of Mountain's Whanau, along with **Tessa Lee** of Coast Whanau, took out the major placings for the senior girls races.

A thoroughly enjoyable day was reflected in the highest participation rates in MHJC's history.

Our 2013 Swimming Champions:

Junior Boys Champion: Victor Chua

Junior Girls Champion: Annika Pujary

Senior Boys Champion: Connor Stewart

Senior Girls Champion: Elaina Hea

Orienteering

MHJC got the Kiwisport College Orienteering Competition off to a flying start on Tuesday the 19th February, with a mighty 24 students taking part in the junior course at Howick College. Congratulations to all students who took part in the first competition, you all showed a fantastic attitude and commitment to trying your best.

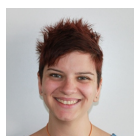
With three of the six courses already completed, the final meet is scheduled for Saturday 6th April. We wish our orienteers every success for their upcoming events!



Studies.



Miss Abbigail Shields
teaching
Drama and
Physical
Education.



Ms Roz Simpson
teaching
Science.



Miss Cathy Wang,
Mandarin
Language
Assistant.



Mr Neil Craik,
Careers
information,
advice and
guidance
teacher.



MHJC Celebrates Chinese New Year

Mrs Middlemiss and our award winning teacher of Chinese, Mrs Jenny Wang embracing the spirit of MHJC's 2013 Chinese New Year celebrations.

Fees and School Contribution

A reminder that payment of the school contribution helps us provide high quality education for your

Back Row: Hetu Shah, Harish Narasimhan (captain), Raj Panchal, Paramveer Basra, Harpal Nanra, Nishant Patel, Tyberg Mauafua, Harry Lincoln and Mr Naddy Naidoo

Front Row: Kyle Potgieter, Jaspal Singh, Vishaal Datt, Bikram Klair, Rahul Banerjee, and Sohan Karangalpady

Cricket

Our first XI team have made an impressive start to their cricket season. Coached by Deputy Principal, Mr Naidoo the team won their first two games and their third by default.

20.02.13

MHJC versus One Tree Hill College

One Tree Hill: 51 runs MHJC: 55 runs

Honourable mentions:

Kyle Potgieter took 3 wickets, Hetu Shah 2 wickets, Harpal Nanra and Nishant Patel 1 wicket each.

27.02.13

MHJC versus Sacred Heart College

Sacred Heart: 37 runs MHJC: 38 runs

Honourable mentions:

MHJC won with 5 wickets in hand

Hetu Shah took 4 wickets for 10 runs, Kyle Potgieter, Harish Narasimhan and Nishant Patel each took one wicket each.

06.03.13

MHJC versus Glendowie College

Win by default

13.03.13

MHJC versus Sacred Heart (Year 11)

Sacred Heart: 49 runs MHJC: 50 runs

Honourable mentions:

MHJC won with 6 wickets in hand

Paramveer Basra made 44 runs and took 2 wickets

Rahul Banerjee took 2 wickets

Kyle Potgieter caught 2 impressive boundary catches.

Softball

Our newly formed Year 7 & 8 boys team headed off to the South Eastern Zone softball competition on Tuesday 5th March. Coach, Mr Nutt was extremely proud of the team's performance, with 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses. For many students the tournament presented them with the opportunity to play their first competitive softball match.

Our Stand Out Players

Slade Montgomery: Pitching/Fielding

Caleb Nyantachi: Batting

Ruben Van Der Merwe: Batting/Pitching

Lantze Davids: Fielding

Eric Seo: Fielding

Alistar Johnson: Leadership and Pitching

Athletics

Our team of 39 Year 9 & 10 students travelled to the 2013 Eastern Zone Athletics event, which was held at Mount Smart Stadium on Tuesday 5th March. Tyberg Mauafua (pictured left) was our outstanding athlete of the day, throwing



children. We are happy for parents to make arrangements for regular affordable automatic payments. Any credit built up can also be used to help cover costs such as class trips, camps etc. when they arise or carried over to future years. Details of how to make payments online are available from reception, finance or contact Ms Pamela Lyness plyness@mhjc.school.nz. Remember that if you have paid before the 31st March your School Contribution is tax deductible in this financial year.



Forest's Aquatic Sessions

As a part of their Term 1 learning focus, Year 7 to 10 students in Forest Whanau have been developing their skills and confidence in the water with a series of 4 swimming lessons at the Lloyd Elsmore Pools. These sessions have been a first for many students, and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

24.85 metres to place 3rd in his Year 9 event. We congratulate Tyberg on his commendable performance.



Team Members: Victor Chua, Justin Tan, Shrey Varma, Ruben Van Der Merwe and Tiana Windbuchler.

Tennis

On Tuesday 12th March Mr Ingrouille took our Year 7 & 8 tennis team to the South Eastern Zone tennis tournament. MHJC had a successful day, with Ruben Van Der Merwe placing 3rd and Shrey Varma 6th in the boys individual division, and Tiana Windbuchler 1st in the individual girls division. Both grades had deep and highly competitive fields. Justin Tan and Victor Chua placed 5th in the boys doubles.



Congratulations to our Champion!

We would like to acknowledge Victor Chua who was recognised in January's Howick and Pakuranga Times, when Lydia Ko presented him with the 'Outstanding Player' award at the First Tee Golf Prize-giving.

Victor also qualified for the recent 2013 New Zealand Junior Swimming Championships in the 50 metres Butterfly and 200 metres Butterfly!



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.

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 new Facebook page, or our website.



Communication Between Home and School

It is important that lines of communication are kept open between MHJC and our community. We achieve this at MHJC in a number of ways:

MHJC School Website

www.mhjc.school.nz - refer to upcoming events, view eReports, latest e-asTTle assessments and your child's learning courses.

Email messages, phone messages or simply pop in and see us!

We encourage you to make direct contact with our teachers via email, as it is an efficient means of keeping in touch. Please do not hesitate to phone or come on in to school to seek support.

School Newsletter

Our newsletter is emailed home each month, and posted on our school website.

Absences

Please phone the school office asap in the morning and leave a message on the absence line answer phone or email absence@mhjc.school.nz

For safety reasons, all unexplained absences are followed up with a phone call from school. We do appreciate it if you can make first contact early in the morning. If your child is late to school for any reason, they need to sign in at the office. If your child has an appointment, they must sign out at the office also.

With clear and effective communication channels, our home/school partnerships will be particularly strong in 2013.

Facebook



Website



Like



Forward to Friend



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



New Zealand, are we Really 100% Pure?

As a part of the 'Setting the Scene' and 'Challenge(s)' stages of our MHJC inquiry process, Coast Whanau have ventured to Maraetai Beach and Auckland's CBD to develop ideas about **New Zealand: 100% Pure?** This advertising campaign has been the subject of much debate in the media of late, and students are looking forward to identifying their focus and connecting with communities to action innovative solutions, for a brighter future.

Upcoming Events



**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 23rd March, 2013.

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

Where? MHJC. Food coupons for sale from 4pm on the day for \$10. Pre-sales available from the reception until the 22nd March, 4pm. Tickets sold via cash on the day.

Our Programme? Food on sale + performances on stage from 4pm-7pm

Come along and help us celebrate our...

Cultural food festival



Show off your school's creativity!

\$20,000 prize pool*



The Safekids Creative Quest

Sponsored by: **Starship Foundation**

'Safekids Creative Quest' is a chance for your school to win prizes and get important safety messages through to students, families and the community.

Help Safekids' public awareness campaign by developing messages for students, by students!

To register, visit www.mysafekids.org.nz/creativequest

Video, radio and art challenges
Timed to run in Term Two 2013, the Safekids Creative Quest offers three fun challenges:

- Make a video – for Years 4 to 9
- Make a radio commercial – for Years 4 to 9
- Create an illustrated story – for Years 1 to 3

The theme: No helmet, No brain!
All three challenges will involve communicating the importance of wearing helmets** for biking, scooting and skating, and fitting helmets correctly.

Curriculum-linked learning, with each challenge
Every challenge comes with a professionally-prepared, curriculum-linked lesson plan!

Winning entries will work for child safety
Winning entries will be turned into posters, books or played on Radio, YouTube or TV!

Teachers: register now!
Register and receive a purpose-built challenge pack. Schools can submit as many entries as they wish.

*Prizes include cash for the winning schools, and supplier prizes provided by sponsors. The winning creative or students. In total, the prize pool is valued at \$20,000. For terms & conditions or for more information, visit our website or email campaign@safekids.org.nz

**Research shows that wearing cycle helmets correctly significantly reduces the risk of severe brain injury by 75%.

Safekids Creative Quest


Make a video, radio ad or story about the importance of wearing helmets and win prizes for you and for MHJC! Click here for more information [SafeKids Creative Quest](http://www.mysafekids.org.nz/creativequest)

PLAYWRIGHTS b4 25

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS COMPETITION

CHANGE THE WORLD. WRITE A PLAY.

Write about ANYTHING that matters to you in ANY way you like for ANY kind of audience. Submit it to our annual competition and win stuff.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.playmarket.org.nz
OR EMAIL scripts@playmarket.org.nz
FOR ALL THE INFO

THE DEADLINE IS
31 MARCH 2013
SO GET WRITING!

NEW ZEALAND PLAYWRIGHTS
PLAYMARKET
MAKING THEATRE FOR ALL

Young Playwrights Competition

A fun way to share your writing talents with a larger audience. Write a play about anything you like! Go to playmarket.org.nz for further details.