

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.



Acting Principal, Mr Naddy Naidoo

Message from the Principal

March Newsletter

Information for students and parents

Kia Ora. Our new students have settled in the school quickly and as I walk around I am greeted by smiles and pleasant greetings. Just observing them confirms that we have created a friendly and warm environment which makes our students feel happy and safe.

We also have a large percentage of our students seeking leadership roles. The enthusiasm displayed by all our students, especially our Year 9 and 10 reinforce our belief that our students are embracing our key values of being **GREAT** (Globally focused, Resilient, Enterprising, Aspirational Thinkers).

Mrs Middlemiss and I took our **Student Executive Council** members to the **YMCA Lodge** in Waiwera for their leadership training. This proved very successful as the students developed amazing ideas and strategies which they will now translate into reality as the year progresses.

Our **Meet the Parents** evenings were well attended across all four Whanau. It was a great opportunity to introduce the parents of our new students to our teachers and unique learning environment. Many parents commented that these parent evenings kept them well informed about the school and enabled them to gain a hands-on experience of our technological environment.

Forest, Water and Mountains Whanau have all held successful and memorable camps. We greatly appreciate the contribution of our parents, teachers and Year 10 student leaders towards making this a special occasion for our Year 7 students. We wish **Coast Whanau** all the best for their camp next week.

We look forward to a very successful year in 2014, working with our parents, for all our students.

Regards, Naddy Naidoo

OUR VISION

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





Upcoming Events

Key dates are also published on our website, [Mission Heights Online](http://MissionHeightsOnline.com).

Family & Friends Meeting

Wednesday 2nd April

Coast Whanau

'Piha Camp' for Yr 7 & 10

Monday 7th April to

Wednesday 9th April

MHJC Mufti Day

Thursday 10th April

\$2 Donation for Legacy Project

MHJC Disco/Concert

Thursday 10th April

\$5 Payable at the Door for

MHJC Students Only

Term 1 Group Photos: Sports & Activities

Monday 14th April

Term 1 Ends

Thursday 17th April

Normal school times apply

Term 2 Starts

Monday 5th May, 8.15am

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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)

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



Back: Rahul Banerjee, Vincent Djajana, Ben Zhao & Anthony Hua.

- Steven Guo, Kaden Naidoo, Tejinder Singh & Vaneel Ram.

- Sinthia Kumar, Muskandeep Maan, Paris Yee & Sartaj Bedi.

- Suhayla Khan, Neha Nitasha, Akshay Kakkar & Rylee Fraser.

- Courtney Powell, Dylan Townsend, Carrie Ng & Rashmeen Sandhu.

Front: Mr Naddy Naidoo, Cailey Dayu & Mrs Joan Middlemiss.



School Fees and MHJC Contribution

Thank you to those families who have paid the school contribution. If you would like to make arrangements to make regular affordable automatic payments, please contact our school reception on 277-7881, or contact Ms Pamela Lyness plyness@mhjc.school.nz

Come along to our next...
MHJC
'Family & Friends'
Evening

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

The next **MHJC Family and Friends** meeting is being held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 2nd April in the school staffroom.

The focus of the meeting will be consultation on the **Health Curriculum**, presented by **Mr Neil Penfold**. We hope you can join us.

Should your child require supervision during this time, **Coast Whanau** will be open and computers available for homework or eLearning.



MHJC's **'Homework Club'**

Our **Homework Club** is a great opportunity for students to stay behind and work on their eLearning programmes, assignment work or receive extra help with their class work.

The following times are available to students...

MHJC Sports Report



Year 8 South Eastern Zone Cricket Tournament

On the 18th February the inaugural **SE Zone Cricket Tournament** took place at the **Papatoetoe Cricket Club**, and **MHJC** were proud to be a part of this event.

We have a talented group of Year 8 cricket boys, and they enjoyed pitting their skills against the other **South Eastern Zone** schools. The innings were only 8 overs per side, with the emphasis very much on attacking batting. But with runs deducted for losing wickets, our batsman had to be selective in their shot making.

Our **MHJC** team progressed to a 3rd/4th place play-off and with an impressive all-round performance they defeated local rivals **Sancta Maria College**, finishing the day with a 43 run victory. Eventual tournament winners were **Somerville Intermediate**.

Tuesdays

Year 7 & 8's:

3.00pm - 4.30pm

Year 9 & 10's:

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Downstairs in Forest

Whanau

Thursdays

Year 7 & 8 :

3.00pm - 4.30pm

Year 9 & 10 :

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Downstairs in Mountains

Whanau



MHJC Qualify for Auckland Orienteering Finals

Congratulations to Ivy Capundan, Paris Yee and Dylan Townsend for qualifying for the Auckland Orienteering finals. Navya Passi and Gurjapleen Kaur also placed 12th and 15th in their categories in the SEZ Competition. MHJC had a great season this year with the entire team showing great progress throughout the duration of the competition, and having a fantastic time whilst doing so.

College Sport Athletics



Year 9 & 10 College Sport Athletics Champs

Mission Heights Junior College sent over thirty of our top Year 9 and 10 athletes to represent our school at the Eastern Zone College Sport Athletics Championships, held on Friday 7th March.

Tyla Grant and Crystal Noun both made the final of the Junior Girls 100m sprint, Dylan Honey qualified for the final of the Junior Boys 300m and Ruben Van der Merwe and Tyberg Mauafua both had top 5 finishes in their respective throwing events.

Viona Silao not only made the final of the Intermediate Girls 100m sprint, but her 'top 4' finish qualified her for the Greater Auckland Secondary School Champs.

South Eastern Zone Boys Tag





MHJC Senior Cricket Success

Since the start of the year our Year 9/10 Senior Cricket Team has participated in a midweek competition, with the final match being held yesterday afternoon. The team remains undefeated and now look ahead to their qualification into the Term 4 cricket module. The following is a review of their season...

MHJC v Papakura High:

MHJC won by 8 wickets
Man of the match: Ruben Van der Merwe, 3 stumps as wicket keeper.

MHJC v De La Salle

MHJC won by 7 wickets
Man of the match: Samson Ireland, taking 4 wickets.

MHJC v Howick College

MHJC won by 7 wickets
Man of the match: Hari Narasimhan, taking 3 wickets.

MHJC v Sacred Heart

MHJC won by 50 runs
Man of the Match: Ruben Van der Merwe, scoring 70 runs not-out.

MHJC v Onehunga

MHJC won by 10 Wickets
Man of the Match: Rahul Banerjee, scoring 30 not out and taking 3 wickets.

MHJC v De La Salle: Final

MHJC won by 2 runs
Man of the Match: Hari Narasimhan scored 40 not-out and Samson Ireland took 4 wickets, hitting the winning runs off the final ball.

South Eastern Zone Girls Tag



Year 7 & 8 South Eastern Zone Tag Tournament

Tuesday 11th March saw the CMRL South Eastern Zone Intermediate School Tag Tournament held at Ti Rakau Park. MHJC sent teams in both the Boys and Girls grades.

A one point loss to eventual winners Farm Cove Intermediate proved costly for MHJC as playmaker Xavier Gray was injured out of the tournament. Avery Fesolai and Bailey Williams performed admirably, while Tyrell Green was outstanding in both attack and defense. The Boys had a credible fifth place finish overall.

Sophia Herewini led the way for our girls team, with eye catching performances throughout the day. Tiana Herewini, Jazmin Stevens-Apaipora and Tylah Williams were also prominent. The girls produced competitive efforts, but were unable to convert opportunity into points.



Tag Football National Champs

Congratulations to Year 9 student Matthew Palalagi for being selected to play in the recent Tag Football National Championships. The tournament was held at the Trusts Stadium Henderson, where Matthew had the opportunity to play against top quality opposition from all over New Zealand. Unfortunately Matthew's team were knocked out at the Quarter Final stage, conceding a try in the final few seconds to eventually lose 5-4 to East Auckland.



Amisha's Released a Record

Amisha Kumar has just released her first album comprised of religious, semi-classical songs. She first started singing when she was 5 years old and has appeared in two Indian radio shows, the most recent being an interview on 1386 Radio Tarana.



Technology & Innovation Explored at Motat

Senior students from Mountains Whanau recently attended an educational trip to MOTAT, to gain first hand experience of technology and innovations of the past, such as the function of a pump house and early farming and hunting equipment. The field trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

MHJC Swimming Sports Lagoon Aquatics Centre



2014 Full School Swimming Sports

A thoroughly enjoyable day was reflected in very high levels of participation and GREAT Whanau Spirit at the Lagoon Aquatics Centre.

Our 2014 Swimming Champions are...

Junior Boys: Eugene Chua

Junior Girls: Annika Dyer

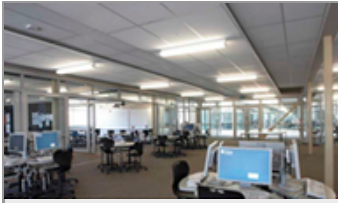
Senior Boys: Victor Chua and Connor Stewart

Senior Girls: Tavai Mason-Wells



Connor Sets the Pace at the National Champs

Connor Stewart attended the State Insurance National Swimming Championships two weeks ago in Hamilton. Connor's results exceeded his own goals for his individual events, but also as a member of the Counties Manukau Rep Team in the Boys 14 yrs Freestyle and Medley Relay teams, winning the Gold Medal in both. In his individual events, Connor won Gold for the Boys 14 yrs 50m Butterfly, and Silver for the Boys 14 yrs 50m Freestyle.



Cybersafety at MHJC

ICT is integrated across all areas of the curriculum at MHJC. Students sign the school's **Cyber-Safety Agreement** upon enrollment, which clearly states they should never share their school password with others, or let anyone else use their personalised **Smart Card**. Please do not hesitate to contact the **Assistant Principal** of your child's Whanau should cybersafety needs or concerns arise.



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We'd love you to follow us on Facebook! Simply click on the Facebook logo on our school website to be directed to the school Facebook page.



Water Whanau holds 'Great Kiwi Challenge Day'

During Week 6 Water Whanau held a 'Great Kiwi Challenge Day' at Totara Park. During the day students participated in six rotation activities including tent pitching, swimming, orienteering, outdoor cooking, sport and recreation activities supported by parents, teachers and Year 10 leaders.



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!

"MHJC Road Patrol" featured in the Eastern Courier

Publishing permissions gained 17/03/14

Go to their website: <http://easterncourier.realviewdigital.com/?id=88414&crd=0&searchKey=ruben#folio=1>

Eastern Courier

www.stuff.co.nz

Friday, March 7, 2014

YOUR PLACE, YOUR PAPER



Crossing champion: Young Ruben van der Merwe has been watching over the crossings around his school for the last four years.

Photo: ROSE CAWLEY

Patrols keep kids safe

The police and the Eastern Courier are teaming up for the Marching On Campaign. Rose Cawley will report on the kids who make walking to and from school safe, champions of walking school buses, great walkways and safety.



By ROSE CAWLEY

RAIN, hail or shine – Ruben van der Merwe stands outside his school helping keep other kids safe.

The 13-year-old has been slogging it out as a road patrol monitor for four years and says it is crazy what some adults will do behind the wheel.

"We have people who stop right before the crossing and let their children out even though the signs are up and they should be moving. Traffic piles up behind them," he says.

He's also witnessed a near miss and encourages drivers to keep the safety of children in mind.

Ruben first started on road patrol when he was at Mission Heights Primary and has kept it up now he is at the junior college.

"I wanted an extra-curricular activity and I thought it would be a fun thing to do while keeping everyone safe."

"In summer it is great. It's warm, it's fun, if you are with your friends it is really social but in winter with the rain and cold, it's not great but it all balances out."

Ruben, along with about 30 other patrollers, monitors children crossing on Jeffs Rd and Valderama Drive before and after school.

He says he has it down to a fine art now.

"Once you get confident and used to it you can judge for yourself if it is safe to put the lollipop signs down and control the traffic flow."

Howick youth education officer Senior Constable Adele White says children like Ruben play a marvelous role in keeping the community safe.

"Police value the work of all our School Traffic Safety Team members, especially as the role requires spending longer hours at school."

"Mission Heights Junior College is extremely lucky to have this dedicated young man as a member of their School Traffic Safety Team," she says.

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