

We hope you enjoy our **March** edition of 'Mission Heights News.'
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with titles and names.



Principal, Mrs Joan Middlemiss.



Message from the Principal

March Newsletter

Information for students and parents

Today we held our first Celebration assembly for 2015 and recognised the first of, what I am sure will be many "MHJC Champions". Looking back on the term we have already achieved so much in a very short term. We have held our swimming sports, three of our 4 Whanau have had their Year 7 camps, our first disco was a big success and a real highlight was our amazing Cultural Food Festival on Saturday.

What a great event this was. Many of our students have worked hard on this as an authentic learning context and they, and their teachers did an outstanding job. When you combine great food, wonderful entertainment, huge support from our community and a really positive and energetic atmosphere how can the day be anything but the wonderful success that it was. Even the weather was kind.

Our students are setting great goals for this year and have embarked on some exciting and very creative learning contexts.

We are really looking forward to an exciting Term 2. I hope everyone has a restful and rewarding break and we look forward to seeing you all again in Term 2.

Regards,
Joan Middlemiss

Upcoming Events

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

Last Day of Term 1 for Students

Tuesday 31st March, 3pm

Teacher Only Day

Wednesday 1st April

Teacher Only Day

Thursday 2nd April

Good Friday Holiday

Friday 3rd April

Term 2 Starts

Monday 20th April, 8.15am

Big Science Competition

Wednesday 29th April

Family & Friends Meeting

Thursday 30th April, 7pm start in the 'Meeting Place'

ICAS Digital Technologies Exam

Tuesday 19th May

Coast Whanau 'Shakespeare Lodge Camp' for Yr 7 & 10

Wednesday 20th May to Friday 22nd May

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 27th May, 6pm

Ormiston Senior College Careers Evening

Thursday 28th May

ICAS Science Exam

Wednesday 3rd June

Year 8 Transition Visits to OSC

Thursday 4th June - Coast

Friday 5th June - Forest

Thursday 11th June - Water

Friday 12th June - Mountains

Talent Quest Finals

Thursday 11th June

ICAS Writing Exams

Monday 15th - Friday 19th June

ICAS Spelling Exam

Tuesday 16th June



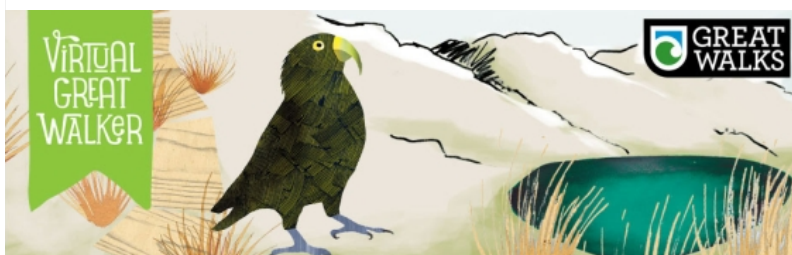
The Great Kiwi Walk Competition

Year 7 and 8 students in Mountains Whanau have been busy walking this term, as part of the Department of Conservation's "*Great Virtual Walker*" competition. Classwork has focused on conservation issues, ecosystems and habitats, mapping and compass work, all relating to being in the great outdoors. Classes have also been busy trying to walk at least half the distance of one of New Zealand's Great Walks, with some having walked over 40 kilometres this term.

Year 8 students visited the Auckland Botanical Gardens in early March. They completed an orienteering course, camp cooking and went on a bush trail hike focusing on the identification of native trees and birds. Year 7 students have walked to Barry Curtis Park, Point View Reserve and completed the Hunua Ranges hike whilst at camps. Students commented on how different (and challenging) bush walks are compared to our local, urban walks. They especially enjoyed locating a large geocache hidden in the forest and seeing the Hunua Falls.

Recently classes went on a hike of the Mangemangeroa Valley in Sommerville. Conservation issues (Kauri dieback, pest control) and the habitats (mangroves, pasture, bush and coast) were the key focus of this walk. Mission Heights Junior College was featured in the New Zealand Herald for this work. To read the New Zealand Herald article, please click on the link below...

[nzherald - A Virtual Walk in the Park](#)



Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 24th June, 6pm

MHJC Mufti Day & Disco

Thursday 25th June

Last Day of Term 2

Friday 3rd July, 3pm

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2015 Term Dates

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

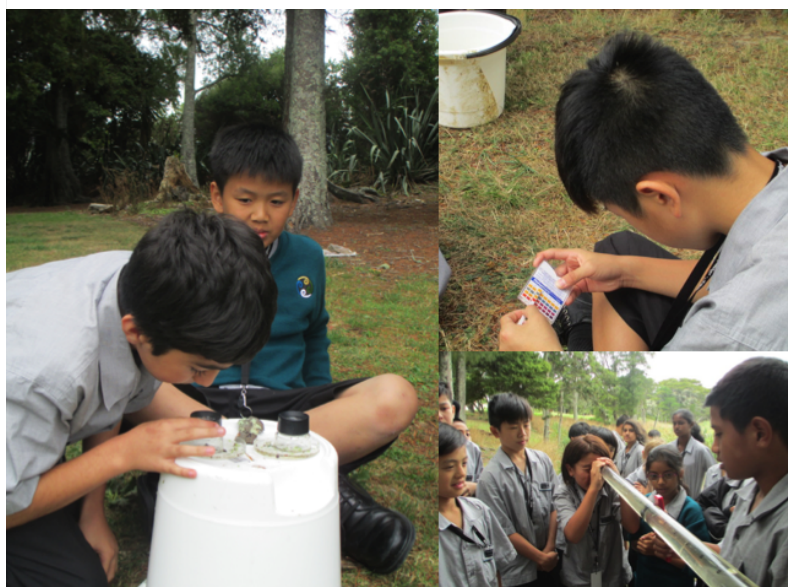
(10 Week Term)

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



WaiCare Students Participate in March Monitoring Month

Students at Mission Heights Junior College have been keeping track of their local streams with WaiCare. To date, students have collected water quality information and assessed the macroinvertebrates present in the samples. Students from 7M1 have started to compare the local stream to those found in other parts of New Zealand. The data collected is a part of the "March Monitoring Month" competition, which is run through Auckland Council's WaiCare programme.



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

NCEA Information Evening

MHJC's Family & Friends group warmly welcome parents to an NCEA Information Evening, at 7pm on Thursday 30th April. The meeting will take place in the 'Meeting Place' which is next to the school library. Principal's nominee, Kate Lambert will be joined by guest speaker, Karen Brinsden who is Principal of

Sports Report

Congratulations to our 2015 Swimming Champions...

Year 7 & 8 Boys Champion

Eugene Chua

Year 9 & 10 Boys Champion

Victor Chua

Year 7 & 8 Girls Champion

Solana Carpenter

Year 9 & 10 Girls Champions

Katelyn Knox and Annika Dyer



Ormiston Senior College.



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA



Congratulations Victor

Year 10 student, Victor Chua recently traveled to Wellington to participate in the Div II New Zealand Swimming Champs. Victor peaked for the event and impressed with fast times. We congratulate Victor for winning 6 medals, which represent many hundreds of hours of hard work and commitment...

Gold

100m Butterfly

Silver

100m Freestyle

200m Freestyle

400m Regional Relay

Bronze

50m Butterfly

50m Freestyle



Active Cup Cricket

Year 7 and 8 students from MHJC's Active Cup Cricket team have achieved some pleasing results this season. The team gained commanding wins over Viscount School and Bucklands Beach Intermediate and hard-fought losses to St Kentigern College, Kings College and Sacred Heart College.

Devon Murdoch, Tihann Bergh and Azhar Lambat are pictured completing pre-match warm-ups under the guidance of MHJC teacher and Level 3 cricket coach, Mr Shoruban Pasupati.





SEZ Swimming Results

On Wednesday 15th March Year 7 and Year 8 swimmers traveled to **Howick Intermediate** to take part in the Year 7 and 8 **South Eastern Zone** swimming gala. All swimmers represented MHJC with pride and swam very well.

A special congratulations goes to **Eugene Chua** who placed in all of his races:

1st Place

50m Breaststroke

3rd Place

50m Freestyle

50m Butterfly



South Eastern Zone Tennis Results

On Tuesday 10th March five students represented MHJC at the annual **South Eastern Zone Tennis Competition**, held at **Sommerville Intermediate**. Congratulations to all squad members who, as always, represented the school with pride. Team members were



Mountains Make Lasting Memories at Camp Adair

Mountains Whanau headed to **Camp Adair** in the Hunua Ranges from the 9th to the 11th March. Students participated in individual and team based activities including raft building, abseiling, archery and a high swing activity. Year 10 students completed a special confidence course and led a **burma trail** evening event. Highlights of the trip included **Josephine Law** nailing a bulls eye in archery, the exhilarating mud slide, a campfire singalong with **Miss Cunningham** and hiking to the Hunua Falls.



Ranbir Basra, Kevin Fu, Mansimran Kaur, Salah Mohammed, and Matthew Painter.

The competition was of a very high standard and our congratulations go to Mansimran Kaur who placed 4th in the girls singles division, and Kevin Fu who was our top performing student on the day, placing 2nd overall in the boys singles.



TravelWise Update

Thank you to all students who are riding bikes, scooters and skateboards to school. New scooter and skateboard racks will be installed over the holidays. If you need a reminder on how to fit your helmet correctly, please see Ms. Hunter.

Please continue to use sustainable transport to get to school. Don't forget you can get discounts on bus passes by purchasing an Auckland Transport HOP card.



Forest's Camp Adair Experience a Success!

During Week 6 of the school term, Forest Whanau enjoyed a 3 day camp at Camp Adair in the Hunua Ranges. Under the careful watch of 5 staff members, 26 Year 10 leaders guided 49 Year 7 students through a number of challenging but confidence boosting activities such as the Pamper Pole, Multi Vine and Giants Ladder. The tramp from camp, up 'killer hill' and along the ridge to Hunua Falls was challenging, but rewarding, as new friendships were cemented through mutual encouragement to keep going!

Even though the weather was far from perfect and the camp fire was rained out, students still had a great time, taking part in Forest Whanau's first camp auction and awards ceremony. Many Year 7 students are keen to sign up and do it all again in Year 10.



Water Whanau Students Step Up to Camp Challenges

During Week 7 of the school term, 73 students from Water Whanau embraced the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone to participate in the 2015 Piha Mill Camp experience.

Camp was a fun and memorable highlight of the term for Water students, due in no small part to the exceptional care and leadership

Bake Sale Success

Mountains Whanau Councillors organised a successful bake sale last week. The "red" themed event raised over \$360. Monies raised will go to purchase Whanau musical instruments to use during interval and lunchtimes.



School Tours

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!

CONTACT US



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demonstrated by the Year 10 student leaders. Students thoroughly enjoyed camp activities and highlights of the camp included time at **Action World**, a hike to the **Kitekite Falls** and of course the **camp show** and **disco**! A water safety rotation at the **Papakura Aquatics Centre** saw students earn their **boat safety certificate**. This was followed by leisure time on the **Aqua Run**. Teachers would like to thank **Mr Ash Sudhakar** for supporting Water's activities, and for contributing to a safe, happy and memorable camp.



Contextual Learning Through MHJC's Cultural Festival

8W1 Global Studies students presented their own composition as part of their assessment in the **MHJC Theatre** recently. Students had the opportunity to research and explore 'traditional' foods/recipes of the Southern Hemisphere. They then created their chosen dish and composed musical items to share at the school's **Cultural Festival**.

Thank You for Supporting MHJC's Cultural Festival Last Saturday...



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