We hope you enjoy May's edition of 'Mission Heights News.' Please click <u>View it in your browser</u> to view text plus images in this newsletter. To translate our newsletter, please <u>View it in your browser</u> 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

# **OUR VISION**

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



# Message from the Acting Principal

May Newsletter Information for students and parents

#### Kia Ora,

Our Principal Mrs Middlemiss has been on leave visiting her son in London and has visited Vancouver in Canada and some countries in Europe. This has been a well earned refreshment leave for her after making so many sacrifices and devoting an enormous amount of time establishing our school and leading us to become one of the best schools in the world.

Beautiful smiles, well dressed and students excited to be back at school greeted us on day one of the second term. This reinforced our belief that our students love the learning environment at MHJC. This term will be a very busy term with our students reflecting on their achievement in class and seeking ways to make sure they cover the four corner stones of our balanced education. They should use today to be a better person tomorrow.

Many of our students will be involved in extra-curricular activities including winter sports teams, representing our school. They will also be striving to participate in our cultural, academic and leadership programmes. Travel Wise activities, Academic Competitions like ICAS writing and Maths Problem Solving, Debates, Chess tournaments and preparing for our school production are some of the things that will occupy our student's time this term.

Students will also be unraveling the mysteries of our universe by



participating in the science fair and the IPENZ projects. We are also encouraging students to complete 3 sessions of Reading Plus per week as we are predicting that there will be a positive correlation between the level the students attain and their achievement across all curriculum areas. We would also like parents to motivate their child to increase their reading level by both doing more sessions per week and also concentrating and completely focusing on the task. Both quantity and quality are essential for the student to make progress.

Mission Heights Junior College hosted the SWIFT Forum from 10th April to 12th April, 2013. The theme for the forum was **Enabling and Empowering Learning through Technology.** 

Teachers from Nanyang Girls (Singapore), Shenton College (Perth, Australia), Hwa Chong Institution (Singapore) joined MHJC in the Forum. All delegates were in total agreement that this Forum was an outstanding success. Our students did a fantastic job being the presenters for MHJC. The delegates asked them challenging questions and our students answered them with confidence. This confirmed our belief that our students understand their learning. The delegates were amazed and full of praise for our students. The comments we received confirmed that we are at "cutting-edge" of the educational continuum.

Regards, Naddy Naidoo



#### Interest High for 'Duke of Edinburgh' Programme

We now have one hundred Year 9 and 10 students signed up to complete their **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Hillary Award** here at Mission Heights Junior College. Students need to complete three months of physical recreation, a skill and a community-based project. They will then complete an Adventurous Journey. This is a prestigious award that is internationally recognised and is seen as proof of leadership skills and community awareness by businesses and universities.

We are looking for people who are running community projects, who can help with with the adventurous journeys or are offering lessons in skills or physical recreation. If you would like more Wednesday 10th July

MHJC Term 2 Celebration Assemblies Water & Mountains: 9.15am Coast & Forest: 10am 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

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



## Friends What's Coming Up?

The next MHJC Family and Friends meeting is being held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June in the school staffroom. The focus of the meeting is on MHJC's integrated curriculum. We'd love to see you there!

Should your child require supervision during this time, Coast Whanau will be open and computers available for homework or eLearning. information on the award then please have a look at their website: <a href="http://www.dofehillary.org.nz/">http://www.dofehillary.org.nz/</a> and if you would like to offer assistance to students taking part then please contact Ms Simpson <a href="mailto:rsimpson@mhic.school.nz">rsimpson@mhic.school.nz</a>

### MHJC Students Present at Te Papa's 2013

# makertorium

imagine • create • learn • explore



**Pictured:** MHJC innovators, **Nick Lang**, **Luke Trotter** and **Sahil Bhikha** set up their display prior to their 8 hour presentation, at Te Papa Museum.

The Suncatcher project, established in 2012, recently took Year 10 students Nick Lang, Luke Trotter, Sahil Bhikha and teacher Mrs Reshmika Lal on a journey to Wellington. This group project aims to educate young children about the sun and sun safety through the colours of the spectrum by constructing a spectroscope, which measures the amount of UV (ultra violet) light present on any given day.





#### Interested in Dancesport?

Mrs Jacqui Barrow would like to send out an appeal for any Year 7 & 8 students wishing to train for the chance to represent MHJC at the dancesport competition. To express their interest, students need to attend the dance workshops...

Girls Monday lunchtimes in the dance studio
Boys Thursday lunchtimes in the dance studio



In 2012 the **Suncatcher** project was awarded a Merit award in the **IPENZ** Transpower Neighbourhood Engineers Awards, rewarding the boys with \$1000 to start paying off their debt. This year, three members of the group decided to continue developing their project, and entered it into the **Makertorium Exhibition** at Te Papa Museum in Wellington. The exhibition saw inventors from all around the nation, mostly men and women in the work force, showing off their creations.

Our Mission Heights Junior College representatives were the only school students presenting at the exhibition and the boys enjoyed the opportunity to distribute their contact details to prospective buyers, who were interested in their **Suncatcher** product.



Pictured: Rashmeen Sandhu, Paris Yee, Gurjapleen Kaur and Dylan Townsend at the Muriwai Sustainability Challenge

#### **Muriwai Sustainability Challenge**

Last term four Year 9 students represented Mission Heights Junior College at the Muriwai Sustainability Challenge. Rashmeen Sandhu, Gurjapleen Kaur, Dylan Townsend and Paris Yee spent three hours orienteering, problem solving and collecting points for different challenges.



#### Year 9 & 10 Basketball Season Officially Started at MHJC

Congratulations to the MHJC U15 Boys and Girls teams on their victorious start to their basketball seasons. Both teams have started off strongly, with the boys winning against Sancta Maria College and losing by just 1 point in the closing seconds of the match against Kings, and the girls dominating both their Macleans College and Botany Secondary College opponents with commanding wins.

Our U15 Boys, coached by Rauna Murray and U15 Girls, coached by Sharlene Apaipora play their home games after school on Tuesdays. Come on down to the MHJC gym at 4.30pm to watch and support our talented students.

MHJC also has a team playing in the U17 grade at Saint Kentigerns College on Thursday evenings. Their first game was against Saint Kentigern's College which they lost by just 8 points, 30-38. Our MHJC boys then rose to the challenge presented by the older teams, beating Pakuranga College 41-38 in their second game, supported by coach **Ken Gan**. They were the youngest team on the day and performed extremely well, placing just behind the prizewinners. They then went on to give a presentation to Mountains Whanau about the challenge and what they had learned.

# **MHJC Sports Report**



**Pictured:** MHJC team members, Brenda Ngo 8M1 and Aisha Koike 8W2 battle against formidable competition.

### South Eastern Zone Girls Soccer Tournament

On Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, the MHJC Year 7 & 8 Girls Soccer Team went to Saint Kentigerns College to compete in the South Eastern Zone soccer tournament. In beautiful weather conditions the team played 5 games, with one win against Sancta Maria Catholic College. Our thanks goes to their teacher, Miss Catherine Hunter for coaching the team.



Pictured: Joel Exley and Kai Feng at the Orienteering Finals.

#### MHJC Represented at Manukau Orienteering Finals

MHJC was lucky to have four students make it to the recent Manukau Orienteering Finals at MIT in Otara and Massey in Albany on 6th April. Hannah Gomez, Paris Yee, Joel Exley and Kai Feng all represented us well and had great fun taking part.

Congratulations to these students for getting to the final and thank you to all students who took part in the Orienteering series this year, led by teacher Ms Roz Simpson.



Back Row: Felixsun Seang 8F2, Oliver Morris 8W1, Samson Ireland 8M1, Melvin Puthenpurackel 8W1, Ruben Van Der Merwe 8C1(captain), Caleb Nyantachi 8W2, Jayden Smith 8M1, Aiden Willis-Kaio 8C1 and Jason Narayan 10F1 (referee).

**Front Row:** Ethan Flynn 8M1, Eric Seo 8F1, Reinal Singh 8M1, Justin Tan 8C1, Benedict Seth Labnotin 8M1, Lantze Davids 8W2 and Josh Galloway 8F1.

### Year 8 Boys Compete at SEZ Soccer Tournament

Congratulations to our Year 8 MHJC Soccer Team who competed in the recent South Eastern Zone Year 8 Boys' Soccer tournament. Following some toughly fought matches, the boys were placed 5th. A big 'thank you' to their teacher Mr Fabian Sanchez Navarro for coaching the team.



**Pictured:** Members of MHJC's three netball teams warming up with teacher, **Miss Abbi Shields** at the Howick & Pakuranga netball courts.



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

Homework club is a great way to stay up to date with eLearning homework (such as online spelling, reading and maths activities) or gain some assistance with class assignment work.



#### 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

#### MHJC Netballers Gear Up for a Big Season

Mission Heights Junior College has three Netball teams this year and they have been putting in the hard work to prepare for their first games.

Team coaches, Miss Abbi Shields, Ms Trudi Wigg and Mrs Sally Jackways are especially proud that two of their girls have been selected for the Howick age group Rep teams. Manasseh Gray has been selected for the Year 8 'A' Team and Jazmine Stevens-Apaipora has been selected for the Year 7 'B' Team. Congratulations!

# TravelWise Week a Wonderful Success at MHJC

Check Out Our School-Based Promotional Events...





# **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.





Website







Thanks for a wonderful week, great to see so many of you walking or wheeling to school! Keep this up over winter...



### MHJC's Travel*Wise* Week Do Your Bit to Reduce Traffic Around Our School

A mighty 'thank you' to **Mrs Hetaraka** and her team of helpers for ensuring **Travel***Wise* **Week** was a resounding success again this year.

Mrs Hetaraka would like to thank all those who participated in last week's events. As you can see from the photos above, the message for students to walk/wheel/use public transport/or carpool their way to Mission Heights Junior College is one that we would like *students and parents to remember*, especially as it is tempting to get dropped off and picked up from school during the winter months.



#### One Million Questions - All in a Week's Work!

**Mission Heights Junior College** has answered over one million questions since the World Champs began last Monday - now that's an impressive effort. **Ms Trudi Wigg** received a call from Language Perfect telling her that THEY think MHJC students are pretty incredible too!

#### Our Language Perfect World Champs Results to Date:

- MHJC is 7<sup>th</sup> school in the world
- MHJC is currently 2<sup>nd</sup> in New Zealand
- MHJC is 3<sup>rd</sup> in our category globally (1<sup>st</sup> in NZ in our category)
- MHJC has received 156 awards including 4 Elite, 20 Golds, 24 Silvers, 50 Bronze and 58 Credits
- Nearly 350,000 points gained

The Language Perfect World Champs competition officially finishes at 8.00pm on Thursday evening, so we extend our congratulations and best wishes to MHJC students for the intensity and passion they are showing for learning languages.

# ORMISTON SENIOR COLLEGE Careers Information Evening

Tuesday 28th May 6:30 - 8:30pm

# Students, Family & Friends Welcome!

Featuring Universities, Polytechnics, Private Training Establishments and Industry Training Organisations as well as Armed Services, Police and Youth Training Academies.

Location: 275 Ormiston Road, Flat Bush Enquires to Jtredwell@ormiston.school.nz

**Ormiston Senior College** extends a warm welcome to MHJC students to attend the 2013 **Careers Information Evening**, tonight at 6.30pm.

# It's time to vote for your board of trustees



Being a school trustee is an important role that needs people with a variety of skills, experiences and attributes, who believe in making a positive difference to our children's learning.

Make sure your vote counts. All parents of full-time students who are on the school voting roll, can and should vote in the elections. Look for your voting papers in your letterbox and make sure your vote is received by noon 30 May.



# Learn more at www.trustee-election.co.nz

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