We hope you enjoy our October/November 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 View it in your browser 'Translate' (top right).

As this is 'Google Translate', exact translation will not be achieved, especially with titles and names.





Principal, Mr Ian Morrison

OUR VISION

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





Message from the Principal October/November Newsletter Information for students and parents

Lessons from "The Martian"

I recently saw the film **"The Martian"**. The film captured my imagination not only with the implications of an astronaut being stranded on such an inhospitable planet, but the very real prospect of voyages to Mars being planned by NASA before 2030. Barack Obama has proclaimed that he wishes to see a man on Mars by that date in a manner reminiscent of Kennedy in the 1960's.

What qualities and characteristics would NASA be looking for when selecting people to man these voyages? I propose the same qualities we promote through our learning vision at MHJC. The ability and skills to solve problems; to approach situations with a flexible, creative and open mind; to collaborate with other people; to contribute to a team goal; to have an enquiring mind; and always ready to learn. I propose that people with these qualities would be sought after in the future not only for space exploration but also in today's job market where employees who possess "soft skills" are becoming increasingly important to employers.

Some lucky students of **Mountains Whanau** have been investigating this context in Term 4 - yet another example of authentic learning at **MHJC** which will engage and inspire our students. This experience will help our students to understand the challenges of space travel, but should also strengthen their resolve to make a positive difference to our own planet. And who knows, maybe one or more of our students will be colonising Mars in the near future!

Leave from School

It is necessary for me to outline the school's position regarding requests by parents for leave of absence of their children from school. The most common request we receive is for students to accompany parents overseas. This is understandable given the age of our students, the

Upcoming Events

Dates are also published on our website, <u>Mission</u> <u>Heights Online.</u>

Board of Trustees Meeting: 6pm Thursday 3rd December

Santa Show Friday 4th December

Whanau End of Year Trips Friday 11th December

Parents, please note the last day of school for Yr 7, 8 & 9 students... Prizegiving Ceremonies in the Gym Tuesday 15th December Year 9: 9:00am Year 8: 11:30am Year 7: 1:30pm

Parents, please note the last day of school for Yr 10 students... Year 10 Graduation in the Gym Wednesday 16th December Year 10: 6:00pm

Teacher Only Day Thursday 17th December (No School for Students)

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2015 Term Dates Term 4 Monday 12th October to

Wednesday 16th December (10 Week Term)

2016 Term Dates Term 1 Admin Day: Compulsory for all students and parents Tuesday 2nd February, 2016 8:30am to 3:30pm or 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Yr 7 & 10 Students Start Wednesday 3rd February, 2016

All Students at School Thursday 4th February, 2016

Term 1 Concludes Friday 15th April, 2016 (11 Week Term)

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.

diversity of our school and the need to see relatives who live far away. However, the school cannot give permission for students to be away from school during school time for this reason. This is not an internal policy, but one that is directed to us by the **Ministry of Education** regarding attendance. While we appreciate your courteous request, our standard response is that we do not have the authority to give permission and we urge you to consider the important work that your child will be missing. In addition, if a large number of students leave school before the end of a term it places significant pressure on our teaching staff who cannot be expected to provide individual work plans for students who miss school for anything other than sickness.

We will, however, as always, adopt a compassionate approach to families who have suffered a bereavement, for example and for whom there is no alternative but to withdraw their child for a period of time.

Regards,

lan Morrison

Triple Success in National Transpower Neighborhood Engineers Awards



Three teams from Mission Heights Junior College have gained merit awards in the senior section of the IPENZ Transpower Neighbourhood Engineers Awards this year. This competition sees students working with engineering mentors to develop technological solutions to an issue/area of concern that the students have identified in their school or community. The school is developing an impressive record of success, having also been awarded prizes in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Our congratulations to...

Project 1: Christina Bang, Sarah Hamza and **Tyla Amos** (9F2) whose project **"Feel the Heat"** was developed to alert parents if they had accidentally left their child/ren in the car.

Project 2: Katrina Mohammed, Bella Lin and Ryan Ngo (9F2) whose



Parent support needed -Year 10 Graduation supper on Wednesday 19th December 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the MHJC Theatre.

MHJC's Family & Friends seek parental support for the Year 10 Graduation supper which is being held on Wednesday 19th August, 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the MHJC Theatre.

Please email if you are able to help. . .

familyfriends@mhjc.school.nz Kathryn Taylor Chairperson of Family & Friends



Student Rep on BOT Our congratulations to Katrina Mohammed (9F2) who has won the student election for the Board of Trustees student representative for 2016. Thank you to those students who stood as worthy candidates in the election. project "Lock-down" was developed to provide an alert to computer screens if students needed to be alerted that an intruder or other natural threat was imminent. These two groups gained valuable programming support from MHJC's IT Manager **Ben Doughney**, **Mrs Middlemiss** and **Mr Morrison** their mentor teachers. They also worked closely with an engineer, **Mikesh Patel** from Transpower.

Project 3: Ngapipi Herewini, Ashley Taimataora, Molly Herbert and Sophie Chen's (10W2) project "Walking Danger" involved the development an electronic device to increase safety at pedestrian crossings. The girls used a Raspberry Pi and Python programming language to develop their prototype and were supported by Brett Willis, an electronics engineer from Fisher and Paykel appliances and mentor teacher from MHJC, Rebecca McGrath.

To view the full article about this year's winning entries, click on the **enews for schools** link, below...

enewsforschools

An update on Futureintech and other education initiatives in technology, engineering and science



http://www.futureintech.org.nz/enews/Schools/story.cfm?ID=79&referal=web



Film Shortlisted for Sustainability Film Challenge

Congratulations to Wendy Liou, Helen Huang, Kathy Feng and Vivienne Tam (8F2) whose entry into the Outlook for Someday film challenge was shortlist from 156 entries down to the final 40. For the first time in the 9 years of the film challenge shortlisted films are being screened online. View the girls' film 'What If?' on the link below... https://vimeo.com/143817956



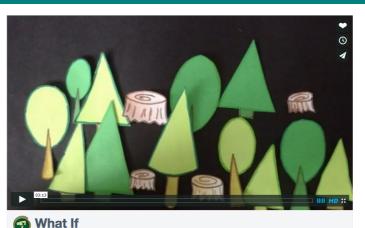
Come join us at... Ormiston Community's 'Christmas in the Courtyard'

The 'Ormiston Community Christmas in the Courtyard' event is taking place this Saturday 5th December from 4:00pm until 8:00pm in the Courtyard at Mission Heights Primary School. There will be food and games for everyone with live performances starting at 6:00pm. Students from Mission Heights Primary, Mission Heights Junior College and Ormiston Senior College will be performing. lt would be wonderful to see MHJC students and families there!



7C2's KDEC Students are Fabulous Mentors!

On the 20th November KDEC students from 7C2 visited the KDEC (Deaf) Pre-School in Kelston to teach children games through their PE & Health



from The Outlook for Someday 2000 4 days ago / Via FTP (ALL-AUDITIONS) Shortlisted Film in the Someday Challenge 2015 By a team aged 12-13 from Mission Heights Junior College in Auckian

CREST

CREativity in Science and Technology: exploring creative solutions to practical problems

the ROYAL Society ø new zealand te apårang

Students Achieve Silver CREST Awards

Congratulations to students from 10W2 who recently gained Silver CREST awards for developing technological outcomes in response to a range of challenges they identified in our community. The Silver CREST awards are for students usually at the Year 11-13 level, so this is a significant accomplishment.

Silver CRESTers are required to work with a consultant who has expertise on the topic the project is related to. Projects are then judged by external assessors, so students can demonstrate that they have satisfied the assessment criteria. Thank you to Rachel Miller and Rishi Yerra, engineers from Fisher & Paykel Appliances for judging and Renée King who is MHJC's Futureintech Facilitator for her ongoing support.



context. Teacher, **Ms Vivita Rabo** commented that is was rewarding to see students being such strong role models for the little ones, who developed their confidence throughout the session. Well done, 7C2!





Be TravelWise Safety When Riding to School

Mission Heights Junior College is committed getting our students to school safely. We promote sustainable travel (cycling, scootering, and walking) throughout the year. Students, please remember to wear your helmet correctly when cycling or scootering to school. All bikes should also be secured with a bike lock.

Click on the link below to view MHJC's **TravelWise** page. Scroll to the bottom of the course page to view the guide to **correctly fit your helmet...**



Mentoring Supports 'Stray Cat Blues' to Local Successes and International Competition

It is now well-known that domestic and wild cats can cause havoc with native wildlife. Past MHJC students, **Rashmeen Sandu** and **Yuzhang Tan** have continued their mentoring relationship with MHJC'S IT Manager **Mr Ben Doughney** to develop an electronic device that can be installed in native bush to repel cats from the area by emitting an ultrasonic frequency that only cats can hear.

Rashmeen and **Yuzhang** started their project in 2013 as Year 9 students and have since tested their device and calibrated its frequency using another circuit that they have developed. They have worked with representatives from the **Department of Conservation**, **University experts** and the **Wellington Zoo** to test that their device does not cause any harm to birds or other native animals found in the **New Zealand** bush.

Rashmeen and Yuzhang were finalists in the 2015 Bright Sparks competition and won their division in the New Zealand Community Problem Solving Nationals. They have also been awarded a grant from the Next Foundation to develop their device into a weatherproof prototype that they can test in native bush. Next year they will travel to Michigan State University to compete in the International Community Problem Solving competition.

NCEA Chinese Success

Congratulations to Year 10 students who have been studying Chinese NCEA Level 1 this year. All ten students worked hard to achieve to the best of their ability, with nine students gaining an 'Excellence' grade. This is a wonderful achievement, well done!

http://online.mhjc.school.nz/course

/view.php?id=3851





Auckland Transport Winners

Congratulations to Auckland Transport prize winners, Sarah Sami (7M1), Sofia Alontave (7M1) and Nikisha Kumar (7M1) who all won double passes to the movies in the recent Auckland Transport competition.

The girls took photos of themselves riding the local bus to be in the draw. You can see details of their winning entry on the Auckland Transport Travelwise website...

https://at.govt.nz/Travelwise





Mrs Wang Wins Outstanding Teacher Award



On Friday 9th October Mrs Jenny Wang received the Auckland Chinese Outstanding Teacher certificate from the Auckland Chinese Embassy. Congratulations, Mrs Wang!

We are proud that Mrs Wang will continue to teach language classes at Mission Heights Junior College in 2016.

MP Visits 7M1 for "Fabulous Flat Bush" Context

In Term 3 Mountains Whanau's context was "Fabulous Flat Bush", with a great deal of our learning focusing on the new Ormiston Town Centre development. Students in 7M1 decided to write some formal letters to certain people who they thought had influence over, or had a vested interest in, what is going to be built in the new town centre. Some of them wrote to Mayor Len Brown whilst others wrote to our local MP Jamie-Lee Ross.

The students were very excited when they heard that **Mr Ross** had enjoyed reading their letters and wanted to come in to school to visit the class and talk to them. During week one of this term, **Mr Ross** spent an hour with **7M1**, talking to them about his job as well as his views and ideas for the town centre. The students asked him many questions, not solely about their context, but also about topics such as the **flag**, his **job**, **parliament**, how he started in **politics** and the **Rugby World Cup**.

It was obvious that **Mr Ross** enjoyed his time with **MHJC** students, as he answered their questions clearly and enthusiastically. Our students were great ambassadors for the school and thoroughly enjoyed having such a high profile person take an interest in their learning.

Exams Conclude for Year 9 & 10 Students

Congratulations to Year 9 and 10 students who completed their examinations earlier in Term 4. Due to roll growth, this has been the first year that students have sat their examinations together as a year group in the Middlemiss Theatre. Thank you to Mr Penfold and Mrs Taneja for their smooth organisation.





MHJC's Gardening Club Needs Your Help

This term MHJC started a club to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers in the school garden. We would love to have some equipment to help us clear the garden and grow some delicious food! Parents, if you have any old trowels, gardening forks, gloves, potting mix, or other equipment that you'd like to donate then please contact

rpalethorpe@mhjc.school.nz

Garden Club is run during lunchtimes on Mondays and Thursdays. Students, please meet at the veggie patch at 1:15pm.





Students Investigate Special Housing Area at Ihumatao

Year 8 students from **Coast Whanau** have been learning about the **housing issue** in **Auckland** and decided to focus on the proposed **Special Housing Area** at **Ihumatao**. Students recently traveled out to the site and were given a guided tour by **Auckland Council** rangers to learn about the volcanic, ecologic and historic importance of the site to both **European settlers** and local **Maori**.

Students saw rare native plants, thousands of birds and the remains of a wharenui, kumara pits and ancient gardens. It was a wonderful day and **Coast Whanau** would like to thank **Robynne** and **Michael** from **Auckland Council** for showing them round and for answering their questions.







Camryn and Holly Support the SPCA

Congratulations to Camryn Chetty (8M1) and Holly Simpson (8M1) who have been great advocates for animals, by showing their support for the SPCA. The girls have invested a great deal of their own time towards collecting greatly needed funds from the public. Well done girls!



Caring for Our Waterways via Integrated Learning

Year 7 and 8 students from Water Whanau have been enjoying integrated maths and science learning in the great outdoors!

Students have tested and evaluated the health of our local streams (temperature, water clarity, pH and macro invertebrate sampling) including the TANE Forest that neighbours the school boundary and Flintbridge Drive, in Toplands.

Our thanks to Mrs Richa Jyoti and Kate Loman-Smith from Waicare for supporting this authentic learning journey.



MHJC's Shake Out Drill

Students and staff at MHJC recently participated in the 'ShakeOut 2015' national earthquake drill.

If you are in an earthquake in New Zealand, **Drop**, **Cover** and **Hold** is still the right action to take. This is the drill that has been taught to school children for many years and is what continues to be promoted around the country.

Click on the following link to view...

'What to do in an Earthquake.'

If you would like more information on how you can be prepared, not just for earthquakes, but for the other hazards we face in New Zealand, visit <u>'How-to-get-ready.</u>'







Morgan's Cheerleading Success

Congratulations to Morgan Telfer (9F1) who represented New Zealand with the Junior New Zealand Development Team last month at the Australian Majors competition held in Brisbane. Her team did amazingly well, bringing home another gold medal for New Zealand.



Footballers Win NZFA ICD Trophy

Congratulations to Caleb Prasad (8W2), Kartik Singh (8W2), Keathan Davids (7W1), Ayush Sudhakar (7W1) and Gabriel Prasad (Caleb's brother from MHP) who played in the first ever NZFA IDC Juniors Football Tournament recently. The boys took the first place trophy and Keathan was the player of the tournament, scoring the top number of goals. Well done on your mighty effort, boys!



Katelyn's Success Against Open Senior Netballers

Katelyn Knox's (9F1) Club Netball Team who are all U15 won the Senior D Section 1 Grade at Auckland Netball at the end of the winter season. This is a tremendous feat and Katelyn is to be commended for playing incredibly well against open Senior women!





A 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!





Strong End to Girls' Volleyball Season

Our girls volleyball season started strongly, with the 'A' Team holding a 5-1 win/loss record and our 'B' Team 4-2. Both teams played weekly at Macleans College against some tough competitors from the South Eastern Zone area. The girls finished the season strongly with the 'A' Team placing 3rd overall, and the 'B' Team gaining 4th in their division. Miss Amy Cunningham and Mr Alex Jackman were both extremely impressed with the skill development and dedication shown by the girls, and look forward to supporting the school's success in volleyball in 2016.



South Eastern Zone Athletics Win

Over **60** students from MHJC competed in last week's **SEZ Athletics Championships**. The top performers were our **Year 8 boys** who placed **first** in an extremely exciting 4x100m relay. **Ekin Liu** (7C1), **Kobe Kay** (7F1), **Paul Chan (7C2)** and **Jerusalem Toilalo** (7M1) performed extremely well under pressure and amidst other strong teams from competing schools. Pictured above are two MHJC athletes **Tiana Herewini** (8M1) and **Atalia Tamati** (8F2) who competed in the long jump event.

Coast Whanau coast-absence@mhjc.school.nz coast-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Forest Whanau forest-absence@mhjc.school.nz forest-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Water Whanau water-absence@mhjc.school.nz water-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Mountains Whanau

mountains-absence@mhjc.school.nz mountains-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz



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.





Have you purchased the MHJC 2015 Photo Gallery yet?



- A full school set of 2015 class photos
- Dozens of team and group photos
- Order Now! \$15 from the MHJC reception

We Challenged the BREAKERS!



Twenty students who represented MHJC during the ABSL Basketball Module had the memorial experience of meeting and playing against the SKYCITY Breakers at the Howick Recreation Centre recently. Students were delighted to challenge prominent players such as Alex Pledger, Tom Abercrombie, Tai Wesley Shea Ili, Everard Bartlett, Shane MacDonald, Jordan Ngatai and Cedric Jackson.

Bradman Duval (8M2) and **William Chen** (7F1) beat out other students from local schools in their games to win signed basketball singlets. Player of the match went to **Jarrod Millar** (8F1) who received a basketball. Students had a wonderful time at '**BREAKERBALL**' and we thank **Bernadette Hing** from **ABSL**, parents and teachers for supporting this fantastic event.

Publishing permission gained from the editor, Nick Krause. Please visit the Botany and Ormiston Times Website: <u>http://digitalbot.times.co.nz/?iguid=61a1f26d-75dd-4405-9ba1-a0e765e74343#folio=2</u>



www.times.co.nz

NEW SUPERMARKET

Pak'nSave Ormiston opens

From page 1

Shelves heaving with the freshest food stuffs had shoppers in a buying frenzy.

Year 7 students of Mission Heights Junior College learning about town planning were also spotted excitedly surveying the area along with deputy principal Nalini Kindley and assistant principal David Nutt.

Mayor Len Brown, who lives in the area, was happily chatting with staff and shoppers.

"We are delighted to bring Pak'nSave to Ormiston," said Angela Bull, Foodstuffs North Island general manager, property development.

"We are excited to be the first to open in the new town centre at Ormiston. We will be able to provide the growing local community with a modern Pak'nSave for our customers to enjoy, with great natural light, wide aisles and plenty of car parks."

Howard Smith, Foodstuffs' property development executive, said that it was the big collaborative effort between Foodstuffs, Todd Property and Panuku Development Auckland.

David Hannan, owneroperator of Pak'nSave Ormiston who is originally from Invercargill but knows the area well due to his previous business, was thrilled with the overwhelming welcome by the residents of the area.

"We have a fresh bakery, butchery, deli and seafood counter plus a large range



Flatmates, all shopping at the newly opened supermarket, pose for a picture with Mr Brown. Trees phases Wayne Mark

of fresh food and grocery products, along with the same great prices and personal service our customers enjoy at Pak'nSave," he said.

The new 6160sqm supermarket at 240 Ormiston Road, is in the centre of Ormiston and the future town centre, has created 130 new jobs in the community.

The supermarket is considered a key part of the delivery of the first stage of the town centre led by Todd Property Group on councilowned land in conjunction with Panuku Development Auckland.

As well as the supermarket, the new urban village will include housing, retail outlets, eateries and innovative working and living spaces close to the 94 hectare Barry Curtis Park.

Allan Young, director of development at Panuku Development Auckland, said it is a major step towards the creation of the town centre.

"Ormiston is an important project for south east Auckland, providing much needed services and amenity for the rapidly growing communities in the area. We're delighted with the progress made to date by Foodstuffs and Todd Property and the opening of the supermarket signals an important step in the wider transformation of the council owned land."



Students of Mission Heights Junior College show off a selfie with Mayor Len Brown at the opening of Pak'nSave Ormiston.



Ormiston Senior College Annual Awards Ceremony Winners

On the 4th November **Ormiston Senior College** held their annual awards ceremony. **Mission Heights Junior College** staff were delighted to see so many former students excelling and being recognised for their achievements and contribution to the school.

The recipients were...

Harakeke - Rose Abrugena, Louise Kim, Yvonne Ruan, Mahima Wadhwa
Mokoroa - David Djurdjevic, Nika Dreyer, Mohammad Mohammadi (KDEC), Molinda Tham, Dylan Townsend, Payal Lal (KDEC Academic cup)
Pukeko - Noel Goundar, Anmol Sandhu, Eric Velasco, Taraani Mohammed & Andrea Champion, Paula Alontave, Ivy Capundan & Anthony Hua, Ilankshi Abrol, Bhumika Dhanji, Hannah Gomez & Prina Mistry
Pungawerewere - Paxton Pulley
Kea - Rashmeen Sandhu
Papatuanuku - Linda Duong
Waka - Anthony Hua, Louise Kim, Puja Ramkumar, Rashmeen Sandhu

Kahikatea - Sporting Excellence - Tyberg Mauafua for U16 Auckland Rep Team for Rugby, Philip Murray-Stowers for U16 Samoan Tag Team

Kahikatea - Academic Excellence

Year 11 - Paula Alontave, Cailey Dayu, Vincent Djajana, Anthony Hua, Courtney Powell, Yvonne Ruan, Rashmeen Sandhu, Dylan Townsend

(ear 12 - Sasha Amichand, Louise Kim, Neesha Kumar, Swashna Lal, Nishalia Maharaj, Jessie Tien

Year 13 - Oscar Chin, Harpreet Kaur, Christina Lin, Taraani Mohammed, Darrian Moodley, Anmol Sandhu, Avneet Singh

Pounamu Awards:

Pounamu Harakeke - Delaila Hann, Harpreet Kaur Pounamu Mokoroa - Aaron Cao, Sandy Su Pounamu Pukeko - There was no recipient for this category, this year Pounamu Pungawerewere - Shenisia Gounden, Anmol Sandhu Pounamu Kea - Mahima Wadhwa Pounamu Papatuanuku - Shenisia Gounden, Taraani Mohammed, Monynna Sath Pounamu Waka - Andrea Champion, Anmol Sandhu, Christopher Townsend Pounamu Kahikatea - Academic Achievement - Sandy Su Waka huia o whakatupuranga - Taraani Mohammed This award is for an exceptional and sustained commitment demonstrating excellence in all areas of school life. This award acknowledges the person who best exemplifies all the norms at **Ormiston Senior College**.

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The Principal Mission Heights Junior College 103 Jeffs Road Flat Bush

Dear Mr Morrison

Over the past three years our prices for your school uniform have remained static. During that time we have had yearly increases of prices from our suppliers. We have absorbed those price increases as we know the pressure that parents and schools are under when it comes to the price of uniform.

You will no doubt be aware what has happened to the New Zealand dollar, insurance premiums and other costs that attribute to the cost of doing business.

It is with regret that I have to advise you that we can no longer hold our current prices and that they will change from 1st December 2015.

Please be assured that this is the last thing I would want to do, but I do not want to compromise on quality and the level of service we provide to your community.

A new price list is attached.

Yours Faithfully

John Russell

Mission Heights Junior College

Girls Skirt	All Sizes	\$56.00
Girls Blouse	All Sizes	\$47.50
Boys Shorts	All Sizes	\$47.50
Boys Shirt	All Sizes	\$47.50
Boys Trousers	All Sizes	\$65.00
PE Shirt	All Sizes	\$49.50
PE Shorts	All Sizes	\$20.00
Jacket	All Sizes	\$75.00
Jumper	Size 77	\$84.00
	Size 82	\$88.00
	Size 87	\$92.00
	Size 92	\$96.00
	Size 97	\$100.00
	Size 102	\$103.00
	Size 107	\$106.00
Cap	One Size	\$11.00
Boys Socks	All Sizes	\$10.00
Girls Socks	3 Pack	\$15.00

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