

We hope you enjoy September's edition of 'Mission Heights News.'
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with titles and names.



Principal, Mrs Joan Middlemiss.

OUR VISION

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



Message from the Principal

September Newsletter

Information for students and parents

Sometimes when you work within an organisation, and schools are no different, it is easy to become accustomed to how things are done and to take this for granted. For this reason visits from a robust external agency like the **Education Review Office** who see us with objective, external eyes are so important in maintaining New Zealand's high quality education system.

We have just had such a visit and, among a wide range of highly positive feedback the review team gave to our **Board** at the conclusion of the visit, the following stood out for me. The team observed that our students were "highly engaged" in their learning. They noted that our students were also "self managing learners" and they found that at **Mission Heights Junior College** the teaching is "high quality". They commented also on the "inclusive and respectful" culture within our school.

It is heartening to know that the high quality, supportive and engaging education we have strived to achieve since opening is a reality and is evident in the daily life of the school. We can justifiably feel proud of our school and we look forward to receiving and sharing with our school community the **Education Review Office's** formal written review in the coming months.

Such reports are important in helping us to determine our success as a school. Another is of course the achievement of our students. You will see again in this newsletter that our students continue to shine in a wide range of activities. In the last week of term we have celebrated a record number of "Champions" in our celebration assemblies. These students have all placed first in a school wide event or in the top three of an external competition. To know that one in five of our students has reached this level of excellence, this term alone, across one or more of the four cornerstones is nothing short of remarkable. Well done MHJC!

Regards,

Joan Middlemiss



Upcoming Events

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

Term 3 Ends

Friday 27th September is the last day of Term (9 Week Term)

Term 4 Starts

Monday 14th October
Students should be at school by 8.15am daily, please.

MHJC School Photos

Tuesday 15th October

SEZ Boys Volleyball

Wednesday 16th October

SEZ Girls Volleyball

Thursday 17th October

Year 10 Maori Katti Day

Tuesday 22nd October

Labour Day Public Holiday

Monday 28th October

Year 9 & 10 Examinations

Tuesday 29th October to
Wednesday 6th November

BOT Meeting

Wednesday 30th October

MHJC Athletics Day

Wednesday 13th November

Year 6 MHJC Orientation Day

Friday 15th November

Teacher Only Day:

Monday 18th November

Year 10's Ormiston Senior College 3 Day Transition Visit

Thursday 21st November to
Monday 25th November

BOT Meeting

Wednesday 27th November



Pictured: Guest speaker, Principal Mrs Joan Middlemiss in Beijing.

International Cultural Festival for Chinese Calligraphy

Mrs Middlemiss was honoured to be invited to be New Zealand's representative at the First International Cultural Festival for Chinese Calligraphy, hosted by Capital Normal University, Beijing in August. The festival and accompanying forum will be held every two years with the aim of promoting Chinese Calligraphy world wide.



Pictured: Nageesh Sharma with his winner's trophy.

Success at APPA Hindi Speech Competition

MHJC was well represented at the APPA Hindi Speech Finals that were hosted at Mission Heights Junior College recently. Year 8 student, Nageesh Sharma was awarded first place for his speech, *'The importance of the mother tongue.'* Congratulations, Nageesh!

Road Patrollers' Trip to Rainbow's End

Thursday 28th November

Term 4 Ends

Thursday 12th December is our School Prize-Giving and the last day of Term (9 Week Term)

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



The 'MHJC Family & Friends' extend a warm welcome to parents to join them at their next meeting, which will be held on...

Wednesday 13th November,
upstairs in the staffroom at 7pm



Niuean Speech Success

Congratulations to Year 7 student Ben Lino, who represented MHJC and placed 2nd overall at the APPA Niuean Speech Competition. This is a wonderful achievement!



Pictured: Mrs Jacqui Barrow's 2013 Dancesport Team at the New Zealand Schools' Dancesport Championship.

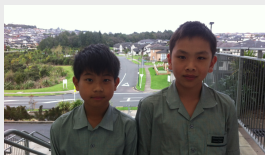
MHJC Students Showcase Passion for Dance

This was the second New Zealand Schools' Dancesport Championship, and nineteen dancers from Year 7 & 8 competed for Mission Heights Junior College.

The students were praised not only for their beautiful dancing, but for their excellent conduct on and off the floor, with the team gaining second overall with one second place, two third places, two fourth places and one fifth place. Special honours to Jesse Tuhaka and Sophie Chen who made all four finals.

MHJC Sports Report





EZ Speech Competition

Victor Chua (pictured right) won the MHJC Speech Finals for the Year 7/8 division and represented the school recently at the Eastern Zone Prepared Speech Finals, held at Somerville Intermediate School. Our congratulations to Victor for his impressive performance, against some equally impressive competition.

Justin Tan (pictured left) also represented the school at the Eastern Zone Impromptu Speech Finals, held at Somerville Intermediate School.

Justin spoke with confidence on a topic, with preparation time limited to just 10 minutes. Thank you to both Victor and Justin for their superb efforts.



'Make a Difference' DEEP

A big thank you to all MHJC students for supporting the 'Make A Difference' team to purchase 60 lunch boxes for needy students. The students thoroughly researched their selections and showed real passion to support Dawson Primary School, Otago. Keep up the great leadership skills and continue striving to 'Make a Difference!'

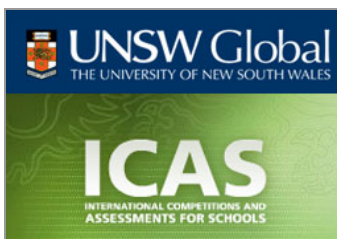


Ruben Wins Bronze at the AIMS Games

Pictured: Ruben Van der Mer on the squash court, last week.

On Monday 16th to Thursday 19th September, Year 8 student Ruben Van der Mer represented Mission Heights Junior College at the AIMS Games in Mt Maunganui. The AIMS Games are an International Intermediate School Games where students compete in a variety of sports, such as sevens rugby, football, hockey, netball, gym sports, athletics, and swimming. The AIMS Games is a large event with over 7,000 students competing from all over New Zealand and Australia.

Last Thursday Ruben won the playoff for third place, and received a bronze medal in the boys squash competition. We are extremely proud of Ruben's accomplishment as MHJC's first student to attend the AIMS Games.



Results for ICAS Maths:

Year 7 'Distinctions'

Jing Ying Foong
Lynn Han
Avinash Sathiyaseelan

Year 8 'Distinctions'

Daniel Strong
Justin Tan
Joshua Fong
Victor Chua
Shrey Varma
Kelvin Xie
Melvin Puthenpurackel
Christine Li

Year 9 'Distinctions'

Anthony Hua
Yuzhang Tan
Kevin Gan

Year 10 'Distinctions'

Louise Kim
Prina Mistry



Popularity Growing for New Sport to MHJC

The last month has seen members of the New Zealand AFL team, 'The Hawks', in school teaching MHJC students the skills and rules of the game. Following sessions learning the 'drop punt', the 'handball' and the 'mark', students are now into gameplay with some being quite adept, catching the eye of the instructors. The NZAFL Coaches are also running matches after school on Friday afternoons. MHJC students are most welcome to join these matches on the school field...



Pictured: Mission Heights Junior College's Yr 9 & 10 Football Team.

Reflections on Junior 'A' Grade Football Season

After the successes of previous years, the 2013 MHJC Senior Boys Football Team played in the Manukau Junior 'A' Grade for the very first time. And what a mixed season it has been. After 4 games MHJC were at the top of the league with 4 wins from 4 games, out scoring all teams and with a superior goal difference thanks to regular scorers Kaden Naidoo and Jason Narayan. The solid defense of Luke Trotter and Sahil Bhikha gave the team license to get forward and score.

The squad knew that the games were going to get more challenging and prepared well for some tough games ahead. After 2 very competitive and physical games against Southern Cross and Aorere College, the boys lost their only game of the season to the eventual winners and only undefeated team in the league, Papatoetoe High School. At the close of the season, MHJC bounced back from this loss with a great victory against the eventual runners up, Al Madinah. The league table (below) illustrates how close the teams were, with MHJC ultimately finishing 3rd place.

TEAMS	PLAYED	WIN	DRAW	LOSS	FOR	AGAINST	POINTS
Papatoetoe Jnr A	10	8	2	0	49	7	26
Al Madinah Jnr A	10	8	1	1	56	12	25
Mission Heights Jnr A	10	7	2	1	37	10	23
Aorere Jnr A	9	5	1	3	21	12	16
Rosehill Jnr A	10	5	0	5	21	26	15
Tuakau Jnr B	10	4	0	6	21	26	12
Waiuku Jnr A	10	4	0	6	16	22	12
Southern Cross Jnr B	10	3	2	5	20	29	11
Pukekohe Jnr A	10	3	1	6	24	33	10
Strathallan Jnr B	10	2	1	7	15	50	7
Manurewa Jnr A	9	0	0	9	10	63	0



Good Luck Karina!

Last month Year 10 student, Karina Gesmundo gained a top 4 ranking at the **Regional Spelling Bee Competition**, winning air fares to the **NZ Vegemite Spelling Bee** final. The finals are being held during the second week of the school holidays, on Friday 11th October.

Karina will stay in Wellington for a night to experience both social and cultural activities with the other **NZ Vegemite Spelling Bee** finalists, before the Final on Saturday.

Prizes:

The Champion Speller wins...

- Champion Speller Trophy
- \$5000 cash

We know that Karina has applied a great deal of effort to train for this event, and wish her all the very best for her time at the Nationals.

College Sport Boys Basketball



Three teams represented MHJC in **College Sport Basketball** this year. The newly formed **U17 Boys' Team** competed well against older opponents finishing 3rd in their pool. This placed them in the Plate section, suffering their lone defeat against winners **Pukekohe High School**. Wins against **Elim**, **Nga Tapuwae** and **Manurewa High School** secured a second place finish for Mr Ken Gan's team.



Rauna Murray-Stowers took the coaching reins of the **U15 Boys' Team** this season. A pair of single point losses to **Kings 'A'** and **Aorere College** were matched by blowout victories over **Kings 'B'** and **Sancta Maria College** in pool play. The team finished 3rd in the pool and proceeded to the Plate section. Narrow wins over **Botany College**, **Sancta Maria College**, **Manurewa High School** and **Southern Cross** had the team playing for first place heading into the final game against **St Kentigern's College**. The **St Kentigern's** team proved too strong and won the game, leaving MHJC in second position.



NZ Chess Federation Exams

Congratulations to the following students who passed their chess examinations:

Level 1 Pawn Exam:

- **Ivy Capunder**
Yr 9, Distinction 100%
- **Bob Liou**
Yr 8, Distinction 96%
- **Neha Nitasha**
Yr 9, Pass 92%
- **Nehaal Prasad**
Yr 10, Pass 88%

Level 2 Knight Exam:

- **Adrienne Champion**
Yr 9, Pass 80%
- **John Yang**
Yr 7, Pass 94%



College Sport Girls Basketball



MHJC College Sport Girls Basketball 2013

The U15 Girls' Team had a superb season, winning 7 of their 8 matches. An early season 23-32 loss, to eventual winners, Aorere the only blemish on their record, which included victories over, Howick College, Macleans College, Botany College, Sancta Maria College, Southern Cross, Pakuranga and Auckland Seventh Day Adventist College. A special thank you to Alex Bikoulov who took over coaching responsibilities this season.

SEZ Boys' Basketball



MHJC SEZ Boys Basketball 2013

On Wednesday 11th September the SEZ Intermediate Boys' Basketball Tournament was held at the Allan Brewster Centre in Papapotoetoe. MHJC played 6 pool matches. Wins over Fergusson Intermediate, Redoubt North, Howick intermediate, Elim and Sir Edmund Hillary College ensured MHJC a place in the semi finals. The one loss of pool play was in a tight match with Sommerville Intermediate. The semi final was a narrow 12-10 loss to Bucklands Beach Intermediate. This sent the team into a play off with Farm Cove Intermediate for 3rd place. A superb performance saw the team produce a 24-3 victory.

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

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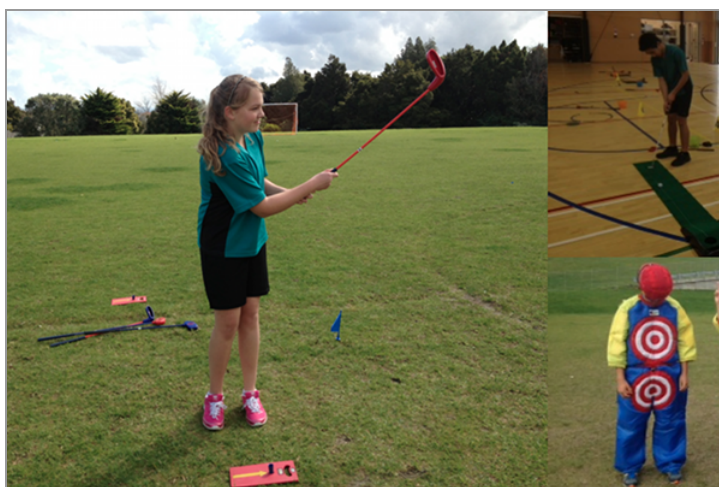
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SEZ Girls' Basketball



MHJC SEZ Girls Basketball 2013

The competition was tough at this year's **South Eastern Zone Girls' Basketball** tournament. **MHJC** represented themselves very strongly, however the girls were cut short from progressing to the finals by just 2 baskets. After two wins and drawing 3 matches, **MHJC** were neck and neck with **Sir Edmund Hillary** to determine who would progress through to the finals. The team with the most points scored throughout the day progressed, which sadly meant that **MHJC** was just two baskets behind **Sir Edmund Hillary**, who advanced on.



Pictured: 'SNAG' coaching development sessions at MHJC.

MHJC are 'Starting New at Golf'

During the first four weeks of Term 3, **Health and Physical Education** classes at **MHJC** had the opportunity to participate in the **SNAG (Starting New at Golf) Golf Programme**. This initiative gave many students who had never played golf the opportunity to discover and grow new skills. **Pakuranga Golf Club** warmly welcomes students to sign-up, if they wish to pursue this sport further.