

We hope you enjoy our **February** 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.



Principal, Mr Ian Morrison

## OUR VISION

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



## Upcoming Events

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

## Message from the Principal

### February Newsbrief

*Information for students and parents*

As we start the 2018 school year I was interested in an article in a recent edition of **The Listener**. This related to research undertaken on whether people believed the world is becoming a better place or not. Interestingly, the majority of people surveyed indicated a negative view of humanity's progress despite data that indicates the world is safer, infant mortality lower, education levels higher, poverty and malnutrition lower than at any other time in our history.

The message we can take from this article is that it is easy to take a negative view when fed "negative" news. Our challenge is to focus on the positive and continue to support initiatives that will help society achieve outcomes that will benefit others.

I am pleased that MHJC has an ethos of positivity. Our staff and students are committed to developing a bright future for our community where everyone can strive and thrive. Let us all support each other in this endeavour and create a landscape that gives hope to our students. This spirit is the force behind our motto:

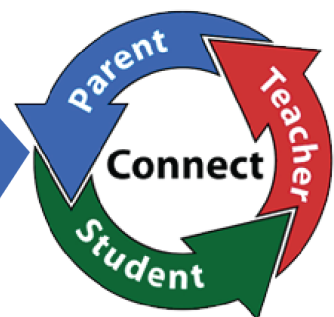
*'Growing greatness - kia mana ake'*

Ian Morrison

All parents and students are invited to  
**MEET THE TEACHER  
EVENING  
TONIGHT**

8 FEBRUARY 6:30pm in your child's Whanau

- Introductions with **teachers**
- Meet your child's **Learning Advisor**
- **e-learning@MHJC**
- **Camp** Information



**Meet the Teacher Evening - All Whanau**

Thursday 8th February, 6:30pm

**Health Consultation Meeting**

Tuesday 13th February, 6:30pm in the Meeting Place

**MHJC Yr 7 Disco/Social**

Thursday 15th February, 6:30-8:30pm

**BOT Meeting**

Thursday 15th February

**MHJC Swimming Sports**

Monday 26th February

**SEZ Cricket**

Tuesday 27th February

**Teacher's Only Day Student Led Conferences**

by appointment

**& NCEA Meeting**

6:30pm in the Meeting Place  
Thursday 1st March

**Girls' Change Makers Breakfast**

Tuesday 6th March

**Forest Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp**

Wednesday 7th March to Friday 9th March at Camp Adair

**Mountain's Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp**

Wednesday 7th March to Friday 9th March at Kokako Lodge

**SEZ Swimming**

Friday 9th March

**SEZ Softball - Boys**

Tuesday 13th March

**SEZ Softball - Girls**

Wednesday 14th March

**BOT Meeting**

Thursday 15th March

**Water Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp**

Wednesday 21st March to Friday 23rd March at Camp Raglan

**Good Friday (No School)**

Friday 30th March

**Easter Monday (No School)**

Monday 2nd April

**Easter Tuesday (No School)**

Tuesday 3rd April

**Coast Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp**

Wednesday 4th April to Friday 6th April at Shakespear Lodge

**PhotoLife Team & Group Photos**

Monday 9th April

**Last Day of Term 1**

Friday 13th April at 3pm

**2018 Term Dates**

**Term 1**

Wednesday 31st January to Friday 13th April  
**(11 Week Term)**

**Term 2**

Monday 30th April to

# 2018: Welcome Year 7s



Your journey towards Growing Greatness begins here at  
Mission Heights Junior College - Kia Mana Ake!



## Student-Designed Robot Picks Up Engineers' Award

*December 15 2017*

A team of Mission Heights Junior College Year 10 students have created Robo-ish, a robot programmed to sense and pick up litter and place it in rubbish bins. The group collaborated this year to produce an innovative project, earning the group a Merit Award in the 2017 Transpower Neighbourhood Engineer Awards and \$750.00 for the school. The robot stays within specific vicinity, using claws to move in a random order automatically sensing rubbish on its way, then finding its way to the bins. The project team was so determined to learn the new software of coding the robot and used certain codes to ensure the robot does the required job. [Click here to read full story.](#)

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**A Warm Welcome to Our New Staff**



Friday 6th July  
(10 Week Term)

### Term 3

Monday 23rd July to  
Friday 28th September  
(10 Week Term)

### Term 4

Monday 15th October  
Wednesday 12th December  
(9 Week Term)

*Please do not book overseas  
travel during term time.*

## Protocol for Signing Out for Appointments or Illness

Please contact the Senior  
Leader of the Whanau  
through the Whanau  
Administration team:

Phone (09) 2777 881

Coast ext.625  
Forest ext. 626  
Water ext. 627  
Mountains ext. 628

The Senior Leader  
will inform the **MHJC**  
Receptionist by phone and  
email.

Parents must sign students  
out at the **MHJC Reception**.  
If the student is returning to  
school on the same day, the  
parent must also sign the  
student in at the **MHJC**  
Reception, please.

**Remember  
SIGN IN  
AND  
SIGN OUT**



Six talented teachers have joined the MHJC team this year and over the next few days you'll meet them in person.

**From left:** Norman Chen-Mathematics; Seema Singh-English; Kim Bolton-Global Studies/Enviro; Neetu Ismail-English; Brent Dunn-Te Reo Maori; **Inset:** Tim Dunn-Health & PE.

## 2018 Executive Council Named

Congratulations to...

Brianna Yeung 10C2; Aditya Nair 10C1; Tanveer Virk 10C2;  
Pahul Kaur 10F2; Tuor Chan 10F1; Tanna Clegg 10W1;  
Anav Ramsing 10W2; James Zeng 10M2; Victoria Kree 10M2;  
Paul Chan 10M2; Harjot Singh Dharni 10M2; Kyle Anderson 10M2;  
Amanda Lee 10M2; Ayushi Narayan 10M2.

As the council meets over the upcoming weeks details of our New Executive Council, their roles and a formal photo will be published.

## Sports Report

### IMPORTANT EVENING

#### Physical Education & Health Consultation Evening

Tuesday 13th December, 6:30 - 7pm at the MHJC 'Meeting place.'

#### Trial dates for our sports are as follows:

Thursday 8th Feb - Hockey Trials  
Friday 9th Feb - Tennis Club Starts  
Monday 12 Feb - Y9 & Y10 Netball Trials - After school  
Tuesday 13 Feb - Y7 Boys Football trials and  
Y7 & Y8 Netball Trials both at lunchtime  
Wednesday 14th Feb - Y9 & Y10 Netball Trials - After school  
Thursday 15th Feb - Y8 Boys Football trials and  
Y7 & Y8 Netball Trials both at lunchtime

#### Upcoming Events:

20th Feb - Orienteering starts | 26 Feb - Swimming sports |  
27 Feb - SEZ Cricket | 1 March - CS Swimming Comp |  
7 March - Athletics | 9 March - SEZ Swimming |

## Litter-free Lunches

Let's do our part in **2018** to reduce packaging waste and make our lunches 'litter-free'! There's no need for plastic wrap and printed single serve bags in lunch boxes and its so much cheaper without them.



## Stay Sun Safe This Summer

MHJC's blue caps are available for \$11 at John Russell Menswear, 9 Moore St, Howick or purchase online at [www.johnrussellmenswear.co.nz](http://www.johnrussellmenswear.co.nz)



## MATHS CLUB 2018

Term 1's Maths Club is taking place in Coast Whanau, downstairs every Monday from 3:15 4:15pm and will be run by MHJC's wonderful Mathematics teachers. This programme will also extend throughout the year.

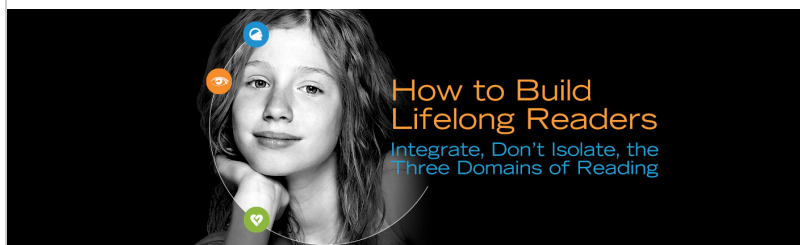


13 March - SEZ Boys Softball | 14 March - SEZ Girls Softball |  
20 March - SEZ Tag | 27 March - SEZ Tennis | 10 April - SEZ Orienteering

## HOMEWORK TOOLS @ MHJC

All students are encouraged to strengthen their literacy and numeracy skills, by completing **See Reader** tasks each week using **Reading Plus** and 4 to 5 **Maths Buddy** tasks, which are assigned by Maths teachers. Our data shows that there is a high correlation between the number of homework tasks completed on our homework tools and the progress of our students - put simply, *"the more we practice, the better we get"*. Our strong school-wide approach for **Reading Plus** in 2017 supported an average of a 108 wpm gain with students on average increasing 4 year levels in comprehension.

We have also introduced another exciting e-learning tool called "Education Perfect" that will support students' classroom learning in Science. Find out more about our eLearning tools below...



Our school is using *Reading Plus* to help students become better readers. *Reading Plus* is a web-based program that helps students develop the skills they need to be proficient readers and independent learners. Through regular *Reading Plus* practice, your student will begin to read faster with better comprehension. To learn more about *Reading Plus*, visit [www.readingplus.com](http://www.readingplus.com).

Your child can complete *Reading Plus* assignments on your home computer or tablet. Assignments in each program can be completed in any order, but please remind your child that *SeeReader* lessons are the most important.



Reading Plus is the only reading system that simultaneously develops all three domains of reading: physical, cognitive, and emotional.

By integrating three domains into one personalized system, Reading Plus builds the physical skills essential for fluency and stamina, provides the personalized, leveled content that allows students to build vocabulary and comprehension, and taps into student interests to build confidence and motivation.

Click on the video below to see [How 'Reading Plus' Works...](#)





## William Pike Challenge Award - Year 9s

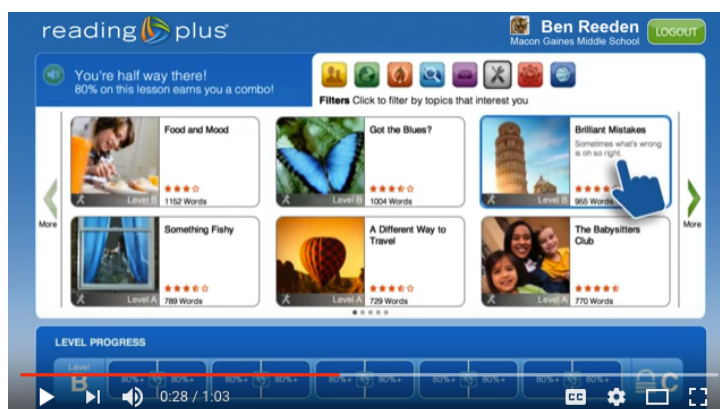
The WPCA will be back at MHJC this year for students in Year 9! The William Pike Challenge Award (WPCA) is a combined Outdoor Education, Community Service, and Passion Project inspirational programme that empowers young people to grow their self confidence, improve their team work skills, step outside of their comfort zone, and connect with their community. More information has been sent home to Year 9 families.

Students are asked to apply via email to [Ms Grant](#) by 4pm, Friday 9th February. We look forward to another busy and rewarding year through WPCA!



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!

**CONTACT US**



## Benefits of MathsBuddy

- ✓ Gives student the freedom to study without stress, at home, in their own time, at their own pace.
- ✓ Students can catch up on lessons they missed or concepts they have not fully understood.
- ✓ Because maths concepts build upon each other, sometimes it's necessary for students to go back and revise a particular concept before moving on to a new topic, this can be done as every student has access to the entire Year 1 to 13 program curriculum.
- ✓ Students can preview lessons at home before they take them at school.
- ✓ Students can gain understanding and confidence especially in areas where they struggled previously.
- ✓ Students can complete the worksheets and interactive questions to test their understanding. All of their results are recorded so that their progress can easily be seen.
- ✓ Above all, it works!

Click on the video below to see [How 'Maths Buddy Works...](#)

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

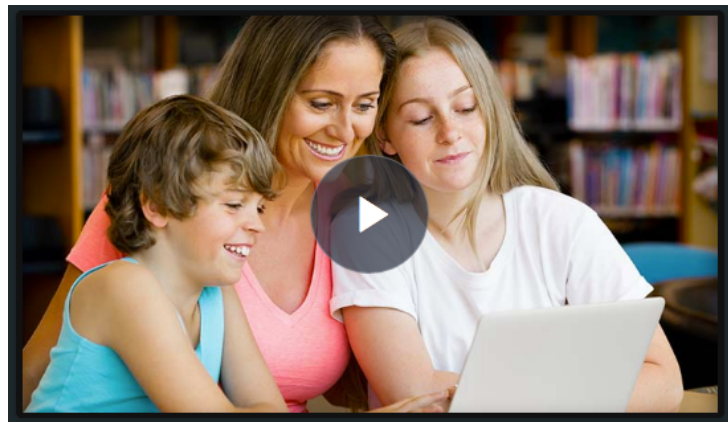
Forest Whanau  
forest-absence@mhjc.school.nz  
forest-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

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

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

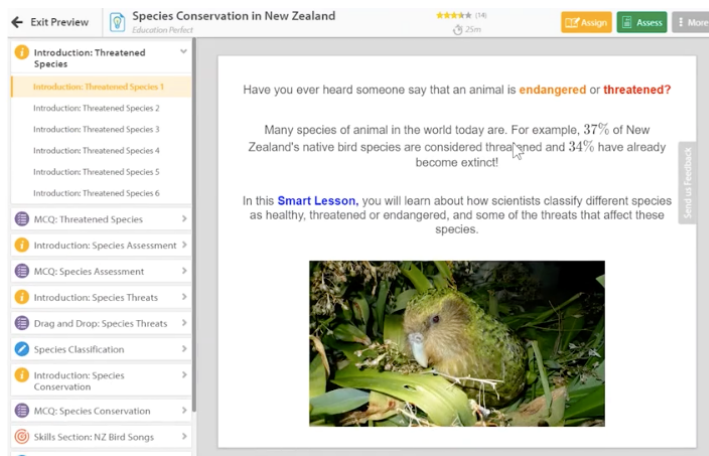


Click on the button to follow us on Facebook. Click to visit our [website](#)



Education Perfect is a new learning platform that MHJC is using this year to support effective and engaging learning in Science for all students. It is also being used by senior students to supplement other digital tools already in use. **Education Perfect** is being used by over 1000 schools with 3000000 students signed in to the program.

Click on the video below to see [How 'Ed Perfect - Science' works...](#)





Wear  
your  
Fluro  
gear  
for fun!



6:30-8:30pm  
Thursday  
15th  
February

★  
YEAR 7  
WELCOME  
DISCO

MHJC Theatre  
★

Bring coins  
to purchase  
drinks and  
treats  
\$2ea

Free Entry with MHJC Student ID at the disco  
(no pre-sold tickets).

Parents must drop off. Students must be collected from  
the theatre (not outside) at 8:30pm sharp please.

Be GREAT

seek  
support

eLEARNING  
Resubmissions  
Class Work  
Teacher Help

encourage your friends to come along...

to

HOMEWORK CLUB

Make **a**  
difference

HOMEWORK CLUB

3:15PM TO 4:15PM

Monday's in Water Whanau &  
Wednesday's in Coast Whanau

MATHS CLUB

3:15PM TO 4:15PM

Monday's in Coast Whanau