

We hope you enjoy **Term 1's** edition of **'Mission Heights Junior College 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.*



"A special welcome to our new students and to those returning..."



Principal, Mr Ian Morrison



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tena koutou katoa.

Owing to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic our **Term 1 Newsletter** has been delayed and a number of events we would normally highlight were postponed or cancelled. However, I would still like to extend a warm welcome to new and returning students and whānau. I would also like to sincerely thank the entire community - staff, parents and students for your positive and measured response to the challenges this global challenge provided. I am sure that we will all emerge stronger and with a renewed commitment to place wellbeing as our first priority.

I look forward to working with you on some exciting new initiatives as we continue our learning journey at **MHJC**. Our property plan continues to take shape with a new surface for the playground; the canopy and artificial turf for the tennis courts expected to be completed early in Term 3 and plans for the wellbeing centre next to the gym and renovation of the **Joan Middlemiss Performing Arts Centre** to be completed by the middle of the year. These projects may be delayed owing to the lockdown restrictions but we hope to get things moving as quickly as possible.

In terms of curriculum, we continue to focus on providing authentic, real learning opportunities for our students and enhance this experience by promoting creativity. The increased use of **Tāne forest** will continue and will complement a school-wide strategy to integrate the **Māori world view** into our teaching and learning. Holistic reporting of student achievement and progress continues to its next phase and we welcome community feedback on what we consider to be a far better way of capturing a true and accurate picture of our students.

## Our Vision:

'Growing Greatness through innovative, constantly evolving personalised learning'



CONTACT US



COAST Whānau

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[coast-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:coast-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz)

## FOREST Whānau

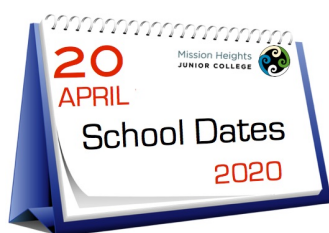
[forest-absence@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:forest-absence@mhjc.school.nz)  
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## WATER Whānau

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## MOUNTAINS Whānau

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

### Term 2 Begins

*Distance Learning*  
 Wednesday 15th April

### ANZAC Day

Saturday 25th April

### ANZAC Day Observed

*Public Holiday*  
 Monday 27th April

### Kindness Week

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd May

### Pink Shirt Day

Friday 22nd May

### Queen's Birthday

*Public Holiday*  
 Monday 1st June

### World Vision 40 Hour Famine

Friday 5th June to Sunday 7th June

### End of Term 2

*12 Week Term*  
 Friday 3rd July @ 1:00pm

### Other Term Dates:

### Term 3 Begins

Monday 20th July

### End of Term 3

*10 Week Term*  
 Friday 25th September @ 1:00pm

### Term 4 Begins

A slight but significant change to our values is the modification of **ako** to **whakamana** which means to “*empower all learners to reach their highest potential*”. This gives us greater freedom to develop both learning to learn and how we are becoming **lifelong learners**.

Finally, I would urge all parents to engage closely with the school. There is little doubt that the success of our students in terms of **wellbeing**, **progress** and **achievement** can be closely associated with the **quality** of the **relationship** that has been developed between the school and our families. We can achieve so much when we are all **paddling together** in the same direction.

*He waka eke noa - we are all in this together!*

*'Growing greatness - kia mana ake'*

Ian Morrison



Matua Jason Tuhaka addressing new and returning ākonga at MHJC's powhiri.

## Introducing our New Teaching Staff

We extend a warm welcome to new staff who commenced their teaching at Mission Heights Junior College in February.

*From left to right: Matua Anthony Keung - Mountains Whānau, Enterprise, Business & Māori*  
*Michele Hillman - SENCO & eLearning*  
*Calla Wu Zheng - Forest Whānau - Visual Arts & Global Studies*  
*Nalini Narayan - Coast Whānau - English & Mathematics*  
*Aidyn Thomas - Water Whānau - Outdoor Education & Health + PE*  
*Sheryl Wright - Mountains Whānau - English & Global Studies*

We also welcome Sports Co-ordinator **Jeanna Wessels** who teaches several junior Health & PE classes across the school.



## Introducing our Student Executive Council

In keeping with tradition, this years' **Executive Council** will continue to provide a student voice in many areas of school life. Several sub-committees have been formed which will carry out their responsibilities



Monday 12th October

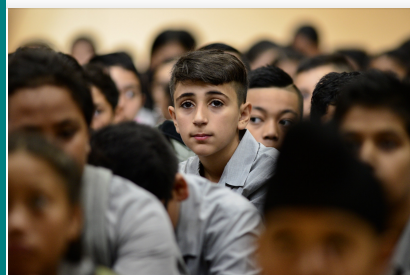
**End of Term 4****9 Week Term**

Thursday 10th December

**REMINDER****School Tours**

Mission Heights Junior College is open for viewing by the public every week on Wednesday mornings starting at 9:45am from our school reception.

*Come and see our learners in action!*

**MHJC Swimming Sports**

MHJC's annual school Swimming Sports saw students from all Whānau giving their very best! Congratulations to this year's swimming champions, Mountains Whanau, who won the Swimming Sports Points Shield with an impressive 1317 points!

We do hope you enjoy our Media Council's video footage from the [2020 Swimming Sports Event](#).



through the year. Congratulations to the following students have been selected to the 2020 Executive Council:

*From left to right:* [Principal, Mr Morrison], Katelyn Chan, Neksha Juneja, Danna Liu, Maia Murray, AJ Bassano (BOT Rep), Navdeep Singh, Sunaina Sharma, Rayan Engineer, Edwin Chew, Ishrit Kangura, [Associate Principal, Mr Naidoo].

**Well-Wishes Extended Between Sister Schools**

On *Valentines Day*, MHJC students and staff extended their well-wishes to sister school, Nanjing Jin Ling High School, Xian Lin campus. The schools have hosted reciprocal visits in previous years to learn more about life, language and to participate in authentic cultural experiences. We are pleased to be able to share a [link to messages from Wei Zeng school](#) that was received in response to [MHJC's Valentine's Day well-wishes](#).



Teachers Mr Ashton, Mrs Ismail & Mrs Selagan join principal Mr Morrison in sending their best wishes to MHJC's sister school.



Students from Nanjing Jin Ling High School, Xian Lin Campus visit to New Zealand during Term 3, 2019.

**Sports Report**





### Howick Rotary Fun Run

Students and staff participated in the **Howick Rotary Fun Run & Walk** on Sunday 15th March at **Stockade Hill**, in central **Howick**. There was a strong representation from schools at the event and this illustrated the sense of community and well-being the event strives to support. **John Nguyen** was the first finisher from **MHJC**. Our other competitors ran in small groups and supported each other through to the finish line with great enthusiasm. Our congratulations to Mr Hishey, the first staff member home!



### SEZ Girls & Boys Softball

Our **SEZ Girls** and **SEZ Boys Softball** teams participated in their respective one-day tournaments held at the **Howick Softball Club**, during Term 1. Our boys' team competed admirably against strong competition from schools in our region, playing valiantly and developing skills as the day progressed. Our girls' team won two of their five games, overpowering **Bucklands Beach Intermediate** and **Ferguson Intermediate** to finish 8th. Our softballers can be very proud of their determined spirit and our sincere thanks go to **Coach Dionne Basanno** for sharing her passion and expertise with our players leading up to the tournament, and also on the day. **Sophia** and **AJ Basanno** also assisted with scoring, mentorship and team organisation on the day.



### Senior Cricket

The **Senior Boys Cricket** team topped **Pool 'B'** alongside **Macleans College** in the **College Sport Junior 'A'** competition. Unfortunately, the deciding match was cancelled due to rain which was extremely disappointing as the weather had been superb throughout the Term.

**Mantej Singh (Y10)** captained a strong and skilled team for **Term 1** with many commanding wins. Leading by example, **Mantej** was required to retire after achieving 50 runs (the **College Sport** limit) in all games that he played. The team possessed great camaraderie and provided plenty of motivation and support to teammates.

Against **Sacred Heart College** our 3 opening batsmen **Austin Sood**, **Mantej Singh (Captain)** and **Aryan Bansal** all claimed their 50's and had to retire. Prowess with the bat was a real strength of the **MHJC** team for **Term 1**, however, when we needed to, pressure was also applied with the ball. Our thanks to coach **Mr Rob Nikiel** and the valued assistance of our parent managers.

#### Results:

Mission Heights 123/4 - v - Sancta Maria 122/9 **WIN**

Mission Heights 198/4 - v - Sacred Heart 119 **WIN**

Mission Heights 157/2 - v - Saint Kentigern 105/8 **WIN**

Mission Heights v Macleans cancelled due to inclement weather **DRAW**





Mr Hishey and Pebbles nearing the finish line.



*We're  
Keeping Active  
During Lockdown  
Fun Fitness Logs*



## *Introducing Our New Sports Team*

Jeanna Wessels  
Sports Coordinator

Daymon Hellyer-Adams  
Sports Assistant

[sport@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:sport@mhjc.school.nz)

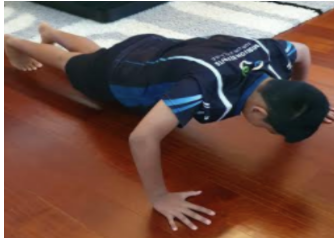
In these unprecedented times, we find ourselves navigating a very different home, school and social dynamic that are all taking place within your homes and shared more closely with your whanau. This has both challenges and opportunities. A number of the opportunities have been centred around well-being and exercise, I trust you have found what works for you and have possibly even tried new hobbies, tasks and activities to keep your mind and body healthy.

To aid this, those students who participate in sports teams and groups, will receive correspondence from your coaches as to what individual teams' "practices" will look like during this period of remote learning. Once we have returned to school, further communication based on advice/ restrictions from the ministry and sports governing bodies will be communicated in due course.

In the meantime, please continue to look after yourselves, keep fit, healthy and happy!

Nga mini,  
MHJC Sports





MHJC's 'Outdoor Education' option courses participating in their Auckland City Water Activity Day.



Staff from Mountains Whānau were charged with the enjoyable task of running Term 1's 'Country & Western' Year 7 Social.





Coast/Takutai, Forest/Ngahere, Water/Wai & Mountains/Maunga Whānau attended **Camp Adair** during Week 6 of Term 1.

## Depression, Anxiety, Cyberbullying, Drugs, Alcohol...

Some of the challenges faced by today's parents.



SchoolTV is a new resource designed to inform and support parents on major issues with contributions from Australia's leading experts.

It's never been more challenging for parents to raise happy, healthy and resilient children. Like never before, parents need to be informed with clear, fact-based information on the many challenges faced by today's youth. Topics such as youth anxiety, depression, self-harm, drug and alcohol use, cyberbullying and many others need clear explanation and guidance.

SchoolTV is a new ongoing resource that is now available to our parents. Each edition will address a major topic with expert interviews, fact sheets, parent quiz, recommended apps, books and much more. SchoolTV aggregates information from many great resources such as BeyondBlue and ReachOut, amongst others. SchoolTV provides a single stream of independent factual information that saves parents time and confusion of searching online across multiple sites for information.

You can access the **SchoolTV** archive here: <https://mhjc.nz.schooltv.me/category-latest-newsletter>



This year, Anzac Day will be like no other.

**Let's all #StandAtDawn — apart, but together as one.**

The Anzac spirit has taught us many things; endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humour and mateship. And in these unprecedented times, it's important we unite together using all of these qualities.

## Anzac Day, 25 April 2020

On Saturday 25th April 2020 the country is being asked to unite and **#StandAtDawn** (6am) with your bubble, wear your poppy and listen to our special dawn service. You can stand at dawn in front of the TV, in your courtyard, in your driveway, in your garden or even your balcony.

Tune into Radio NZ National ([AM & FM frequencies](#)), [listen live](#) on the internet or on your phone ([download app here](#)) for the official dawn service broadcast commencing at 6am. The morning service includes

**The Last Post**

**Ode of Remembrance in Te Reo & English**

**National Anthems**

**Address by Hon. Ron Mark, Minister of Defence / Minister for Veterans**

More details here: [www.standatdawn.com](http://www.standatdawn.com)

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