

We hope you enjoy the **February 2026** edition of 'Mission Heights Junior College Newsbrief.'

Please click [View it in your browser](#) to view text plus images in this newsletter.

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



"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams"

~ Henry David Thoreau



Principal, Mr Ian Morrison

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou

May I extend a very warm welcome to new and returning students, staff and whānau. I trust everyone had a relaxing holiday and returns refreshed and excited about a new school year!

As always, a new year brings with it numerous opportunities and possibilities. It is a time to reset our personal goals and remind ourselves about what is really important to us and to prioritise small changes to make them happen.

In this context we can look at our motto of "kia mana ake" or "growing greatness" as something which is attainable by everyone. To paraphrase a well know whakataukī:

"Only a few people might do great things but we can all do small things in a great way".

Thank you in advance to everyone who supports our ākonga to do small things in a great way:

Doing the right thing and being kind to others; being on time, ready to learn and focused on our work.

I am sure by living our values and committing ourselves to doing small things in a great way, we can all enjoy a wonderful year and continue our journey of growing our greatness.

'Growing greatness - kia mana ake'
Ian Morrison

Our Vision:

'Growing Greatness through innovative, constantly evolving personalised learning'



CONTACT US



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Waitangi Day

Any public holiday which helps bring people together should be celebrated. It is also important for everyone to pause and reflect on the meaning of such a day. **Waitangi Day** can be a very politicised event but it, like few other days, is uniquely ours. As citizens of **Aotearoa**, however new to the country we may be, it is a reminder to commit ourselves to continuing to build a peaceful, prosperous nation in which everyone can feel safe and valued for who they are.

This mirrors our vision for **MHJC**, a community where everyone is supported to become the person they were meant to be.

Drop-Off Reminders

MHJC students are only using the Valderama Drive entrance to access school site. This is very busy in the morning. Please drop students before 8.15am to avoid heavy traffic.



2026
YEAR OF THE HORSE



Dates are also published on our school website:

[Mission Heights Online](#)

* See **Sports Report** for dates of sporting fixtures.

Waitangi Day - Holiday
Friday 6th February

Toothgroup Y9&10



Introducing MHJC's New 2026 Staff

Satendra Lal - Maths & Science

Paula Nguyen - English & Art

Yadwinder Kaur - Enterprise/Business & Global Studies

Bella Faulls - Science & Technology

Saajidah Khan - Learning Assistant

Keeping Our Children Safe Online

Tuesday 16th February

e-asTTle Year 7/New Students

Monday 16th - Thursday 19th February

Rob Cope - Online Safety Talk

Monday 16th February

Y10 Camp Leaders Day

Wednesday 25th February

Interwhānau Trivia

Thursday 26th February

Year 7/8 e-asTTle Writing

Monday 2nd - Thursday 5th March

Year 7 Blake VR

Tuesday 3rd - Wednesday 4th March

Meet The Teacher

Thursday 5th March

Year 7 Camp - Forest/Water

Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th March

Year 7 Camp - Coast/Mountains

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th March

Polyfest Pasifika

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th March

Year 8 Vaccination

Wednesday 18th March

Inter-whānau Chess - Y7/8

Thursday 26th March

GRIP Leadership Conference

Thursday 26th March

Inter-whānau Chess - Y9/10

Friday 27th March

Polyfest Māori

Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April

Celebration Assembly

Thursday 2nd April

End of Term

Thursday 2nd April - 1pm

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!

This is such a big concern and we need to tackle it as a community.

Date: 16 February 2026

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Venue: MHJC, Joan Middlemiss Theatre

Tickets cost \$10 per person and can be purchased via Eventfinder.

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/.../rob-cope.../auckland>

Included in your ticket is a one-year complimentary subscription to **Parenting in an Online World 101**, valued at \$99. Created by Rob and Zareen at **Our Kids Online**, this practical, no-nonsense course is designed specifically for kiwi families and is already being used in thousands of homes across the country.

Please note: simply buying a ticket does not give you access to the course - you must attend on the night to receive it. So don't miss out!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhBFJ5RK2R8>

Leadership Council Applications

We are excited to announce that **MHJC** offers a variety of leadership councils for students to join. These councils provide a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills, contribute to school initiatives, and make a positive impact on our community.

A Google Form will be sent to students on Thursday 5th February, where they can express their interest and apply to be part of a council. Application must be completed by Wednesday 11th February.

We encourage all students to review the list of leadership opportunities in the "**Leadership Opportunities**" document emailed to them. Take the time to discuss your interests with your parents/caregivers and **Learning Advisor** to ensure you choose the best fit for your skills and passions.

Don't miss out on this chance to lead, grow, and make a difference.

Academic Competitions

MHJC offers a range of internal and external academic competitions throughout the year. Students have the opportunity to challenge themselves, measure their achievement on external assessment platforms, and earn points towards an **Academic Cornerstone**.

The following are some of the Academic Competitions for 2026 - **Otago Maths** (Years 9 & 10), **Otago Problem Solving** (Years 7 & 8), **Big Science**, **Australian Chemistry Quiz**, **NZ Spelling Bee**, **Australian Maths**, and **Great Kiwi Competition** - English, Maths, and Science. **ICAS** is also offered for most year levels and subjects. **ICAS** will require a parent registration via the **ICAS** website.

We have in-school competitions too with **Education Perfect** and **NIWA Science Fair**.

In a world filled with screens, Thrive helps children strengthen their communication, creativity and confidence – skills that truly matter.

FREE TRIAL LESSON

thrive.school.nz
kelly@thrive.school.nz



Sign up today for 2026!

THRIVE @ MHJC

Build Confident Communicators with Thrive at MHJC!

Thrive Speech and Drama is excited to be continuing at **Mission Heights Junior College** in 2026, supporting students to grow confidence, communication skills, and creative thinking in a supportive and engaging environment.

Thrive is designed for students who want to:

- feel more confident speaking in front of others
- express ideas clearly and thoughtfully
- think critically and creatively
- strengthen presentation, leadership, and communication skills
- enjoy performance, storytelling, and discussion in a small group setting

Lessons focus on real world communication skills that support students both in the classroom and beyond, from class presentations and group discussions to leadership roles and future interviews.

Programme details:

- 30 minute lessons
- small group sizes (4 students)
- lessons held during the school day
- \$220 per guaranteed eight week term
- free trial lesson available for new students



Waka Ama Sprint Nationals

Ahriella Elisara (10M1) recently attended the 2026 New Zealand Waka Ama Sprint Nationals at Lake Karapiro during the school holidays. She placed 1st in the W6 1000m and 4th in the W6 500m, both in the J16 Women's category. Ahriella, along with her club, have qualified to represent 'Pineula Inc' in Singapore this August at the IVF World Sprint Club Championships.

Sports Report

IMPORTANT - SPORT SIGN-UPS

Sport sign-ups for all Term 1 Sports as well as Winter Sports is about to begin. Trials for all teams will be emailed soon and can always be found in the Sports Office.

TERM 1 Sports Timetable:

Senior Boys Basketball Trials

Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th February - lunchtime - mouthguards, proper shoes, and gear

Junior Boys Basketball Trials

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th February - lunchtime

SEZ Girls Softball Monday 9th March

Counties Athletics Tuesday 10th March

SEZ Boys Softball Wednesday 11th March

Auckland Athletics Tuesday 17th March

SEZ Swimming Tuesday 24th March

<https://wkf.ms/3AZWDEx>

SchoolDocs - Policies

Our school works with SchoolDocs to provide a website for maintaining, updating, and reviewing our school policies. SchoolDocs updates policies in response to changes in legislation and Ministry guidelines, reviews/requests from schools, and regular research from the SchoolDocs team.

Our school board has the opportunity to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. We will advise you when policies are up for review and how you can take part in the review.

School Uniform Donations

We would like to thank families that donated uniforms to the school at the end of last year. Please continue to drop any unused uniforms to reception.



YEAR 7+8 BOYS & GIRLS
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BASKETBALL

UNDERDOG BASKETBALL
TERM 1 SOCIAL GRADE

BOYS: \$30 MODULE FEE **GIRLS:** \$15 MODULE FEE
FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO FORM THEIR OWN TEAMS!
ALL GAMES WILL BE PLAYED IN OUR SCHOOL GYM - 5 WEEK MODULE

Register your team with Miss Kindley on **MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY @ Interval & lunch** **near the challenge course/playground.*
Individual players are also welcome to 'come join a team!'

**Kia ora,**

As we head in to 2026 we're pleased to offer your child access to **FREE** basic dental care – available to all eligible students from Year 9 until their 18th birthday.

Our service is provided **on-site at school**, making it an easy, seamless option for busy families and helping students receive care without disrupting their learning. If your child is not yet enrolled with a dental provider, this is a great opportunity to ensure they have reliable, convenient access to high-quality dental care throughout their high school years.

What is your child entitled to?

Eligible students can receive a full range of free basic dental services, including:

- Examinations
- Radiographs (if required)
- Preventative care such as fluoride application, fissure sealants, and scale and polish
- Restorative treatment (white fillings)
- Non-orthodontic extractions
- Root canal treatment
- Oral health education, including a FREE Oral Health Kit

Our experienced team is committed to making dental care accessible, friendly, and stress-free for every family joining our school communities.

We look forward to partnering with you to support your child's health and their brightest smile in the years ahead.

HOW DO I ENROL MY CHILD?

Enrolling your child with us is simple – simply [CLICK HERE](#) to enrol online or give our team a call on **0800 854 556**

HOMework CLUBS

Maths Drop-In Clinic:
Please check emails soon for more details.

Māori & Pasifika Homework Club:
Starting in WEEK 5
See upcoming email from Ms Katafono for details.

Seek Support from teachers with ...

- E-Learning
- Class Work
- Assessments



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