

June 2008



MT ROSKILL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
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Mt Roskill Intermediate Newsletter

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Students

TERMS AND VACATIONS FOR 2008

Term 2:	Monday 5 May	-	Friday 4 July
Term 3:	Monday 21 July	-	Friday 26 September
Term 4:	Monday 13 October	-	Tuesday 16 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOR 2008

Labour Day	-	Monday 27 October
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SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1:40PM ON MONDAY 30TH JUNE FOR PARENT INTERVIEWS

PARENT/CAREGIVER INTERVIEWS 30TH JUNE 2:00 -7:30PM

Parent/Caregiver interviews will be held in the students' classrooms on **Monday 30th June**.

School will close at 1:40pm on Monday 30 June.

All parents/caregivers should have an interview with specialist staff on this afternoon/evening.

A form will be sent home on June 10th so that you can book a time for your parent/teacher interview between 2.00 and 7.30pm on Monday 30th June. A reminder will be sent with the report on 25th June.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Reports

As you read this newsletter teachers are busy writing your child's mid-year report. There will be some changes from last year and most of the changes reflect the more streamlined approach to learning we are trying to introduce across the Roskill Campus.

Therefore we will be using achievement grades that match those used by the Grammar School to allow you to understand this language and what it means. We will be using Excellence, Merit, Achieved, Developing and Not Achieved as our 5 levels of achievement, which matches the grades used in all secondary schools to report to parents and students.

The most important point to make here is that written reports are virtually useless if parents don't come to the school to discuss them with teachers. We will be having a report evening on 30th June and it is expected that all parents or caregivers will attend this evening or make an appointment to see teachers at some other time that is mutually convenient. We are very serious and determined to improve student achievement at our school. It is vital that parents are involved in that process.

I will be sending more information home shortly about the reports and parent evening to explain them more fully.

School Improvements

Shortly work will begin on the final stage of improvement to the School Hall. This will involve a light and sound tower being built to enable us to have state of the art equipment in place for our school productions and student assemblies. This is a very exciting development which will be ready for our production this year, "The Bوليوود Files".

Work is also about to begin on the new toilet and bathroom block for our Special Needs Unit. This will be built at the end of the main block. Work is expected to begin in a few weeks.

We also have architects developing plans to improve our foyer and main entrance to make it more inviting and a warmer place for parents and students when they are waiting to see office staff or senior staff. This work is a little way off but will definitely be in place for the beginning of next winter.

Finally we will soon begin to build a horticulture enclosure in front of the Science Lab and Hard Materials Workshop. This will enable our students to grow plants from seed to plant around the school. These will include native trees and shrubs to plant along the banks of the stream running along the western and northern boundaries of the school. Our plan is to encourage native wildlife to return to these areas. To do this we need to have much more extensive planting and ensure the water running through our school is clean and healthy.

Mike O'Reilly

LOST PROPERTY

We have a selection of lost property waiting to be claimed, some school uniform and some other items that may have been left at Saturday Netball.

If you have lost an item of clothing, please check outside the Food Technology Room as soon as possible.

Margaret Rissman
Food Technology

40 HOUR FAMINE

Well done to students who participated in the 40 hour famine (23 to 25th May) and thank you to parents/caregivers who supported them. Students should be collecting money and returning it to the office as soon as possible.

YEAR 8 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP

During Term 4 Year 8 students will be participating in a programme of education outside the classroom. Part of this study will be a camp at Totara Springs Camp at Matamata.

Your child will participate in one of two camps:

The first from:-

Saturday 15th to Tuesday 18th November

And the second from:

Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st November.

Please put these dates into your diary now !

Activities that run at camp include: Archery, climbing, kayaking, camp craft, initiative activities, low ropes, compass course, "top town" activities, heated thermal pool, trip to Firth Tower Museum, abseiling, astronomy, sport, flying fox and three wire bridge.

We estimate the camp will cost around \$140.00. It would be good if families could start saving for this now. Students could even begin earning money to go towards it. If you would like to pay for camp in weekly or fortnightly instalments, please write to Mrs Grant in the school office, attaching your first amount e.g. \$10.00. Receipts will be issued each time.

While we will have experienced staff running activities at camp, we will still need the help of many parents to stay with us at camp to help with activities. Please consider carefully this opportunity to spend some quality time with your child and share their learning experiences.

We would love to have YOU at camp.



2008 SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAMME

Immunisation for Year 7 students will take place on Tuesday 10th June 2008. This Immunisation is against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough and Polio and completes the New Zealand childhood immunisation schedule.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT

Thursday the 5th June is World Environment Day, and is being celebrated by thousands of New Zealand schools as an opportunity to raise awareness and promote action on national and global environmental issues. This year, New Zealand is the host of this high-profile global initiative, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Our school already recycles used paper and will soon start a composting programme. The school has begun the revegetation and improvement of the Upper Oakley stream which bounds the school site.

For the **5th June** we are asking students and parents **not** to use plastic wrapping in their school lunches. Plastic wrap has been found in waterways and seas, killing wildlife. It takes decades to decompose. Instead, you could use lunch-wrap paper, which is biodegradable and less costly, as a substitute.

We encourage all parents, caregivers and students to participate in this.

TKNA NETBALL COMPETITION

It's been a fantastic three weeks of Netball here at our school grounds especially with the wonderful weather. The 6 teams had the first 2 weeks of grading and all the girls displayed consistency and excellent team effort.

The Gradings for the First Championship Round 1 are as follows:-

Year 8 Team A- A Grade (6 teams)

Year 8 Teams B, C & Year 7 Team A- B Grade (10 teams)

Year 7 Team B - C Grade (11 teams)

Year 7 Team C - D Grade (10 teams)

You can see how well our girls have played with 3 Roskill teams in the B Grade especially with the Year 7 Team A playing against some strong Year 8 teams. Special **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the Netball girls for their effort and commitment.

THANK YOU to all our parents who are Committee members, Coaches, Umpires, Managers, and supporters every Saturday morning. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to have your child playing her favourite sport.

I hope you enjoyed the long week-end.

Suzie Wulf

(Netball Co-Ordinator)



THE SCIENCE ROADSHOW 2008

Have you ever wondered what a Density Ball is, and does? How about the operation of a Mineral Telephone? This and other questions will be put to our Year 7 students on Tuesday the 24th June, with the visit of the Science Roadshow 2008.

The Science Roadshow 2008 promises to meet and perhaps excel previous visits for interest to students. Our Year 7 students will have the opportunity to marvel at and explore many fascinating interactive exhibits and demonstrations.

There are two themes: Earth Science and Astronomy, and Heat. Special educators will take our students from the Earth's weather to the mysterious Black Holes. They will address such ideas as heat conductivity and the workings of thermometers.

The Roadshow will have many interactive exhibits which focus on Light, Magnetism, the Body and Health, as well as Sound.

Our school also proudly hosts students from schools across Auckland.

WATERPOLO *Exciting News - Water Polo is beginning!*



Intermediate School water polo is about to begin. We had our first practice on Wednesday 28th May, but if there are any students still keen to learn this fast, exciting game please see Mrs Levy in Room 24. The only thing you really need is to be able to swim well. We practice at Epsom Girls Grammar School pool every Wednesday evening from 7.30 to 8.30 pm and games are on a Friday evening at varying times at the same pool.

Come and join the fun!

CENTRAL ZONE GIRLS SOCCER

Results

Year 8

1st St Marys
2nd Mt Roskill
3rd A.N.I
4th Diocesan

Year 7

1st Royal Oak
2nd Marcellin
3rd Kowhai
4th Mt Roskill

Players of the day

Year 8 Lusia Ioane
Year 7 Sade' Rihari



On Thursday the 22nd of May, 29 girls went to Keith Hay Park to represent the school at the Central Zone Tournament. In excellent weather and with a great deal of skill, both the Year 8 and Year 7 teams reached the semi-finals unbeaten without a single goal scored against them.

The Year 7 team played extremely well, drawing the semi-final — 1 all, and then unfortunately lost on a penalty shoot out. There were some outstanding performances by many of the girls but player of the day went to Sade' Rihari of Room 1.

The Year 8 team under the super coaching of Mrs Gibbs won the semi-final and then drew the final so once again (same as last year) the final was decided on penalties and sadly they lost. The whole team played really well and deserves praise for not only their play on the field but attitude and behaviour off it. Player of the day was Lusia Ioane (Rm 29).

Mrs Gibbs, Mr O'Connor and all the year 8 soccer girls would like to thank Ms Foster for helping coach after school and all the support she gave the team on the day.

Well done girls !!

CENTRAL ZONE YEAR 8 BOYS SOCCER

The boys started strongly scoring a late goal to beat Wesley 1-0. The next two games were very competitive and resulted in draws. We needed to win our last pool game against Pasadena in order to advance to the semi finals. The team worked well together and Roskill scored two second half goals to win the game 2-0. This was enough to place us second in our pool and we advanced to play Ponsonby in the Semi Final. Ponsonby snuck in a first half goal and although Roskill dominated in the second half we were unable to score. Ponsonby won the game 1-0.

Thanks to Mr Morris for coaching the boys.

Well done guys!

Results

Pool Games: Won 1-0 v Wesley
 Drew 0-0 v Waikowhai
 Drew 1-1 v Royal Oak
 Won 2-0 v Pasadena

Semi Final: Lost 1-0 v Ponsonby
Final Placing: 3rd =

YEAR 7 BOYS SOCCER CENTRAL ZONE 2008

On Thursday 29th May, our year 7 boys soccer team competed in the schools Central Zone tournament held at Keith Hay Park.

It was a perfect day and the fields were firm, allowing for fast free flowing matches. Our first match was against Kowhai Intermediate which we unfortunately lost 1-0. We then had only 5 minutes to run all the way down to the other end of the park (about half a mile's distance!) for our second match against Royal Oak Intermediate. We could only manage a nil all draw. After a quick lunch and much strategizing, we played our third match against Waikowhai Intermediate, but again could only come up with a nil all draw.

In our final match, we seemed to finally find our rhythm and cohesion, securing a stunning 4-0 victory over Marcellin College.

We finished the tournament thinking that we had the talent and potential to achieve better than we did. Our sights are now set to next year- we know what we have to improve on and will work hard to make next year a success. Thanks to coach Mr de La Haye.

Results

Round 1: V Kowhai Intermediate lost 1-0
Round 2: V Royal Oak Intermediate drew 0-0
Round 3: V Waikowhai Intermediate drew 0-0
Round 4: V Marcellin College Intermediate won 4-0.

WELL DONE



SPORTS REPORT

Cricket: An update on our Milo Cup Boys team:- we have qualified for the Auckland Semi-final however our opponents have only just been found. Rosmini beat Murray's Bay recently and now it is too late in the season to be playing. We will look to play this semi final in the first week of term 4.

Orienteering: We sent a team of 30 to the Central Zone event at Western Springs. There were some good times and our Yr 8 Girls A team came third. Michael Kuang Yr 8 and Mark Yep Yr 7 got individual places and also qualified for the InterZone event which was held this Tuesday at Cornwall Park. Hannah Yang ran the fastest time of our students. Well done to all who competed and thank you to Mrs Khoo for providing transport.

Hockey:

For the first time, Mt Roskill Intermediate has entered teams in the Saturday Junior Hockey competition. We have around 40 players in 3 teams who have been training since March and have so far played 3 weeks of grading competition. Both our Girls and Boys 1st XIs are so far unbeaten and the boys have been moved up into the Red grade for the rest of the season. The mixed 8 a side team have had "mixed" results but are developing well and enjoyed their 6-0 win over Royal Oak. Second round play continues after Queen's Birthday weekend. Parents are encouraged to come along to watch and support our teams.

MERIT & ATTAINMENT AWARDS YEAR 7 & 8 SCIENCE ROTATION 1

Merit Stars

Janice Chong Rm30
Jahnvi Gandadal Rm 25
Madushi Kalinga Rm21
Shubham Lotlikar Rm3
David Shen Rm8

Attainment Cups

Ivan Jin Rm3
Nicholas Jose Rm8
Zhixing Li Rm21
Cindy Ou Rm25
Kartik Yellapantula Rm30

MERIT & ATTAINMENT AWARDS YEAR 7 & 8 HARD MATERIALS ROTATION 1

Merit Stars

Theo Loretz Rm10
Cassandra Khoo Rm31
Waimarie McLean Rm29
Sohail Abdulla Rm22
Grace Wang Rm27

Attainment Cups

Chinmayee Phalnikar Rm10
Jia Wen Lam Rm31
James Wong Rm29
Melemoa Valita Rm22
Himanshi Mohan Rm27

REPORT FROM THE KAURI & RATA HOUSE CAPTAINS

Hey Guys!

This is Archana and Kevin here. (Rata and Kauri House Captains.) We hope you have enjoyed Term 2 so far, however there are a few concerns we need to tell you about.

The first one is about the tuckshop. There have been complaints from the House Captains that people are not standing in two straight lines. So if you want to buy something make sure you stand in two straight lines. Another thing about the tuckshop is that when the House Captains are carrying the food back to the office, please make sure you don't disturb them.

This is just a reminder, but everyone please remember to label your class balls, so we can bring them back to your class if you lose them.

Now let's get into something more positive... Young Leaders Day. All the House Captains and Sport Captains had a great time on Young Leaders Day. We had a lot of inspiring words from great celebrities like Mark Ingills & Temepara George.

Year 7's—those of you who want to become House or Sport Captains next year, make sure you go to Young Leaders Day. It is an opportunity you don't want to miss.

Ok guys, that's it from us, enjoy the rest of Term 2 and just keep what we've said in mind.

SCHOOL SOCIAL

This year the Mid Year School Social will be held in the school hall on the evening of Thursday 3rd July. It starts at 7.00p.m. and ends promptly at 9.30p.m. The dance is open to current Yr 7 and Yr 8 students of Mt Roskill Intermediate School. A letter will be sent home with more details including a permission slip which must be signed by a parent or caregiver when the payment of \$5.00 is brought to school. A good standard of dress is expected of those attending.



Mike O'Reilly
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

PIANO AND KEYBOARD LESSONS

Lessons are given on a one-to-one basis after school and last for half an hour. The cost is \$24.00 per lesson (one lesson per week). To arrange lessons for your child ring: *Glenda Gordon 817-3498*

BIG BUDDY *Making a world of difference*

Big Buddy is an organization matching adult male mentors with boys who have no fathers in their lives. They work with the simple philosophy that boys need good male role models to become good men. Unfortunately, many boys do not have a father or other male role model. Their mothers do courageous work in raising their boys alone but cannot model maleness.

Big Buddy finds these boys a male mentor, fostering a long-term relationship similar to that of an uncle. It's as simple as a good man turning up into a boy's life, listening to him, modeling what it means to be a good man. The boy's sense of self will develop, he will do better at school and be less inclined to crime and abuse. Statistics on positive mentoring are compelling. Our motto, "One man can't save the world ... but he can make a world of difference to one boy's life." It's that simple.

If you are interested in this for your boy simply contact:

Steve Sobota at Big Buddy -Phone 838 4448 ext 2 or check out our website www.bigbuddy.org.nz

SELF DEFENCE WORKSHOP FOR GIRLS AGED 7-12 YEARS

Friday 20 June, 4-6pm and Saturday 21 June, 10am-4pm, Fee \$30.00
Auckland Women's Centre, 4 Warnock St, Grey Lynn.

The aim is to help the girls develop confidence in themselves so they are better able to understand their rights and their feelings.

Bookings are essential Phone 376-3227 or email info@womens.org.nz

TENNIS COACHING Girls & Boys All ages

At Mt Roskill Intermediate School Courts Beginner to Advanced

Monday 5 May Improvers 3.15 to 4-15

Advanced 4.15 & Y9+ beginners

Tuesday 6 May New Beginners 3.15 Primary & Intermediate

Improvers 4.15

Cost \$65 - 8 weeks (racquet hire \$5.00) \$60 when paid before April 21st)

Enquiries & Bookings Margaret Pohl Phone: 627-9197



Is your child struggling at school?

Is your child frustrated by under-achievement at school?

Are there problems with reading & writing?

Is homework an ordeal each night?

Is concentrating, following instructions or organising task difficult?

Do they suffer a lack of self-confidence or low self-esteem?

Co-ordination problems - swimming, running, catching a ball?

The Dore Program provides a non-invasive, exercise-based solution for the learning difficulties associated with Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADD ADHD. The treatment is also effective in relieving Aspergers symptoms including improving social skills, eye contact and the ability to adapt to change.

Free information evening

Tuesday, 3rd 10th 17th June, 2008 7.30 - 9pm

**The Parenting Place
300 Great South Rd, Greenlane
Auckland**

The Dore program will be explained, and parents whose children have completed the Program will share improvements in reading, writing, attention, memory, confidence & sporting ability.

Free admission – bookings essential
Call 0508 367 369 www.dore.co.nz