

Mission Heights Primary School
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MHPS NEWS

The Mission Heights Primary School Newsletter

Issue 1 / February 2019

www.mhp.school.nz

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P rincipal's Message

I am pleased to welcome each and everyone of our new and returning families and staff to the 2019 academic year. I hope you have all had a very relaxing and enjoyable family time during the summer break. Its great to see our new and returning students looking refreshed, rested and enthused to get their learning journey underway for the year.



At the end of this term our school will be celebrating its 10th year anniversary of being open. It is a milestone event for our school. It will be memorable for all our people who will be part of this wonderful event. However before then there are many other events happening where our families and students will be joining us and these include the formal opening of the 'TANE' Garden a project that was the legacy of last year's student council and school leaders. With support from the Board and the students efforts we now have an amazing and tranquil place for our students to enjoy.

This year the annual curriculum context is 'CHANGE MATTERS'. It is an appropriate theme that also links MHP's journey of the last 10 years and the changes that have happened since February 2009 to our school, our neighbourhood and even on the education and technological front. This theme will allow our students to consider and think about their present and future lives, impact of changing technologies, communication, world's changing climate, environment, transportation and the skill sets they will need in future to achieve their dreams and goals.

The rich context of 'Change Matters' over the whole year will depict the wider purpose of schooling and our students home lives and personal development within a continuum of the curriculum and their learning. Each Learning Community will work on specific sub-themes each term and break down this vast topic as per their students learning levels.

Teachers planning and curriculum delivery over the year will be organised around four fundamental types of learning: Learning to know, that is acquiring the skills of understanding; Learning to do, so as to be able to act creatively on one's environment; Learning to live together, so as to participate and cooperate with other people in all human activities; and Learning to be, as an essential progression of being an individual yet a part of a team which proceeds from the previous three. These four fundamental skills of being a successful

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learner will certainly be the overriding focus to maximise our students learning journey.

What will also be interesting is to see the political policy changes that are planned and recommended for New Zealand Education that will impact education and schooling drastically from the review of Tomorrow's schools in which all sector representation has been involved. The last time things changed were in 1989 and now 30 years later it is timely to reconsider and refocus. No doubt 2020 will be an interesting year of change for education in our country.

As students get immersed, busy and involved in academic, sports and cultural events planned for the first term, I am hoping that alongside a strong, supportive and successful home school partnership we can make 2019 a great and successful year for all our students and our school. So once again this year, I would like to welcome each and everyone of you to an exciting year ahead, and look forward to working and meeting you at various school events and forums.

Kind regards
Veena Vohra
Principal

School Organisation 2019

Listed below is our professional team for this year.

Principal

Mrs Veena Vohra, MEd (Hons), AdvDipT, DipEdM

Associate Principal

Mrs Carol Norton

Deputy Principals

Ms Jenny Keber
Mrs Helen Gillanders

Assistant Principals

Mr Adam Tamariki – SLC
Mrs Renuka Lal – MLC
Miss Nadine Fiebiger – JLC



Teaching Team

Junior Learning Community

Water Studio

Miss Mikayla Taiapo, LZ – Year 1

Earth Studio

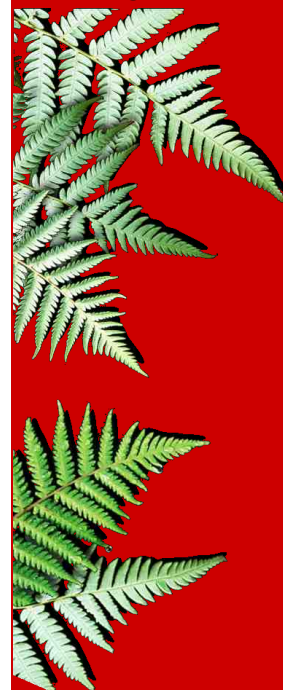
Mrs Clarissa Grootboom, LZ4 – Year 1
Mrs Zelda Dammert, LZ5 – Year 1
Ms Janet Twentyman, LZ6 – Year 1

Fire Studio

Mrs Manjula Bhattacharya, LZ 7 – Year 2
Miss Xin Lit, LZ 8 – Year 1
Miss Nadine Fiebiger, LZ9 – Year 1



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Air Studio
Mrs Sharon Garimella, LZ 10 – Year 2
Miss Nicole Melchor, LZ11 – Year 2
Mrs Ruth Cooper, LZ12 – Year 2

Middle Learning Community

Ahi Studio
Miss Renlen Bolland, LZ22 – Year 3
Mrs Rifat Mohammed, LZ23 – Year 3
Miss Emma Passmore, LZ24 – Year 3

Ngahere Studio
Mr Richard Campbell, LZ25 - Year 4
Mrs Lauren Marais, LZ26 – Year 4
Miss Marcella Djongianto, LZ27 – Year 4

Forest Studio
Miss Ashlee Morse, LZ28 – Year 4
Miss Natalie Miller, LZ29 – Year 3
Mrs Renuka Lal, LZ30 – Year 3/4

Senior Learning Community

Wai Studio
Mr Edward Gee, LZ13 – Year 6
Mrs Wanda Wright, LZ14 – Year 6
Mrs Helen Stevens, LZ15 – Year 5

Whenua Studio
Mrs Shareen Goundar, LZ16 – Year 6
Mr Bill McCutcheon, LZ17 – Year 5
Mrs Erna Bornman, LZ18 – Year 5

Hau Studio
Mr Adam Tamariki, LZ19 – Year 6
Miss Nicole Dennis, LZ20 – Year 6
Mr Kiran Solanki, LZ21 – Year 5

Classroom Release Teacher
Teacher - Mrs Karen Hishey

Music Specialist
Mrs Yun-Pai Hsu, Tane Studio

Technology Specialist
Mr George Church, LZ2

Maori/Pasifika Support/Tane Forest
Mr Jason Tuhaka

Administration
Executive Secretary/PA - Mrs Usar Sabri
Receptionist - Mrs Kyra Edwards
Finance/Accounts - Mrs Kathryn Pullar
Librarian - Mrs Sibylle Townsend
Library Assistant – Mrs Debbie McDermott
ICT Managers- Mr Ben Doughney, Mr Mark Chang

Caretaker – Mr Marcus Revell



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Learning Assistants/Teacher Aides

Ms Mayada Yagot, Mrs Sally Cutfield, Miss Tracey Currie, Ms Belinda Knight, Mr Kalebh Parata

Meet the Teacher Evening - Wednesday 13 February

We have our first orientation and induction evening for all parents and families in the coming weeks to meet with the teachers and our senior staff. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to meet our senior leadership team and your child's learning zone teacher, learn about our unique school curriculum, assessments, RTL times, online reporting/forums and learning programmes. You can chat with senior staff informally to clarify any other questions further. For the senior learning community there will be some information regarding the Year 6 school camp which is coming up in the middle of the term.

Please be seated in the hall by 6.25pm for a prompt start to the evening by the Learning Community Assistant Principals. 2018 achievement report and 2019 targets will also be shared before the visits to the learning zones along with the new reporting format for individual student reports.

Important: Please do bring along your child/children to this evening.

MHP A-Z Parent Information

An A-Z parent I-Desk school information is available for your perusal from our school website's home page www.mhp.school.nz once you log on as well in your child's 2019 communication book. Please refer to it to learn about our school protocols such as late arrivals, RTL time, administering medication at school and paying of school accounts.

MHP Board Meetings

Board meetings are held once a month on the 4th Thursday of each month from 5pm onwards. Please feel free to contact the Board secretary Usar Sabri at usabri@mhp.school.nz or the Principal if you have any questions regarding school policies, procedures or the role of Trustees.

Mission Kids

Mission Kids are available for before and after school care in our school hall. For further information, please contact Paul on 0204 999 019 or email paul@missionkids.org.nz.

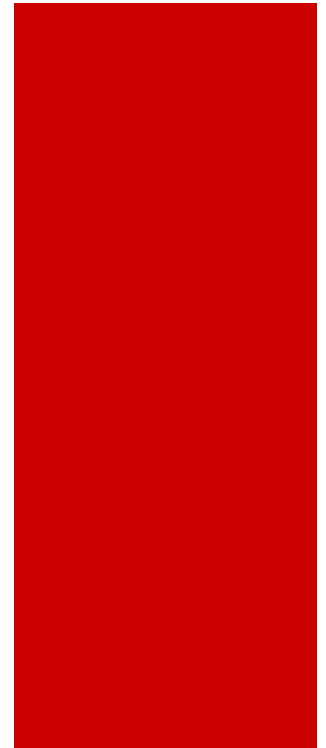
Parent Logon & Password for MHP Online

Parent logons and passwords are available from reception and via email to admin@mhp.school.nz. You will be able to view your child/ren's reports and studio information online once you have them.

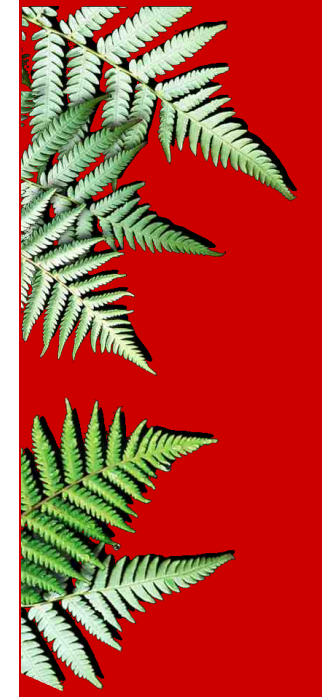
Road Safety

It is great to see everybody back safe and well. We really want to keep it that way so please ensure you are using the pedestrian crossing to cross the road. Please also make sure that you are parking safely before letting your children out of the car and do not pull into the school entrance gate as it can block the staff from entering.

Your support in these matters is vital as we are all trying to keep our children safe.



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Parents can drop off their child/ren in either Valderama Drive or Norwood Road enabling them to walk the short distance to school without crossing any roads. Parking is available around the Mission Heights reserve and in neighbouring streets. This is an easy walk to school for parents and students. The main crossing on Jeffs Road is manned from 8.15 - 8.30am. This is the safe and expected pathway into school from across Jeffs Road. We would ask that parents crossing the road also do so only at the crossing so that we reinforce to students that this is the appropriate place to cross.

We are encouraged by the 75% of our students who walk all or part of the way to school and back home responsibly each day.

School Assemblies

MHP school assemblies are very special events where we celebrate the success and achievements of our students in their ongoing effort of 'Growing Excellence'. All school assemblies are held in the hall. The whole school assemblies are held on odd weeks on a Friday morning from 8.45 am to 9.30am approximately. The Learning Community assemblies are held once a term at the same time. Prior information is sent about the Learning Community assembly and is online too. We value your time and presence at these events and encourage you to join us in sharing the learning journey and success of our students at these celebration events.

School Communication/Newsletters- email contact

We prefer digital communication for all school notices and would like to encourage you to keep in touch with us via email, mission online, and in particular through your child's teacher to be well informed about our school and your child's learning progress.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office and they will refer you to the appropriate person immediately. You can request a face to face meeting by appointment too with a teacher or a senior staff member.

To receive our newsletter, weekly updates and all school notices via email please email us your current/ most updated email address to: admin@mhp.school.nz.

Please remember that you should be receiving our monthly newsletter either by email or accessing it via the school's website. If for some reason you have not been receiving our newsletters or notices, please inform our school reception urgently.

School Contribution/Stationery

We are thankful to the families who have come in recently to pay their school contributions and compulsory fees. We strongly urge once again to those families who have not paid for their child's stationery, fees or the school contribution, to please consider paying these as early as possible in the coming week. This will enable the students to get underway with their learning timely.

Benefits of paying the school contribution timely:

5% discount: The school contribution is a voluntary payment which is discounted if paid prior to 31 March 2019. Should you pay the contribution after 31 March 2019, you will not be eligible for the 5% discount.

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Free Yearbook: All families who pay their contribution will receive a complimentary 2019 school yearbook at the end of the year. These books are a valuable record of your child's time at Mission Heights Primary and may seem unnecessary now but they are a treasure to look back on, in years to come. The school contribution is used to supplement additional technological tools and equipment for our students in the first instance.

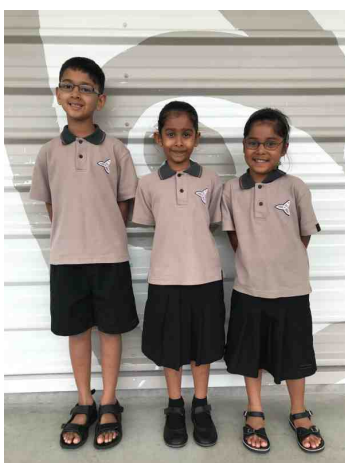
Tax rebate: In April we will send out tax receipts for donations such as school contributions. These tax receipts can be used to apply for a part refund of this year's donation and are available on request.

Details about how to make timely, regular and affordable direct debit payments and tax rebate receipts are available from Mrs Kathryn Pullar at finance@mhp.school.nz

Start of the School Day

Students are expected to be in their learning zone by 8.30am daily so they can prepare for the start of the school day which starts promptly at 8.40am. All learning zones are open from at 8.00am. Due to health & safety, the side gates at the front of the school will be locked at 8.30am, therefore all students arriving after this time will have to go up the main entrance stairs. All students arriving after 8.40am must report to reception.

We also request that parents/family leave the school grounds once the learning has commenced at 8.40am, to help the younger students to settle into class routines quicker. Thank you for your understanding.



Uniforms - School Code

We are very proud of our school uniform at MHPS and the students look very smart wearing it. Please note that the correct colour for socks and hair ties is black and that students are to wear studs for earrings to ensure student safety. The school expectation is that students come to and from school in their school uniform and wear the correct school shoes.

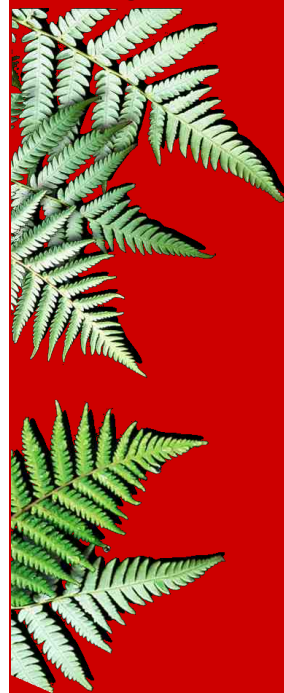
We encourage parents to purchase the full sleeve polo option for the school uniform if your child requires to be warmly clothed through the year. Any hair wear such as scarves are also to be plain black. Girls are not to wear footless leggings & socks to cover their legs, they must wear the black opaque tights and remove all nail polish before the school week starts. Shoes without socks for girls, such as slip ons and ballet type slippers, are not appropriate uniform wear.

With the concerns about sun safety in NZ, and the high summer temperatures, we want all students to wear the school's wide brimmed hat to and from school and sun glasses (optional).

We encourage all our students to take responsibility for their personal belongings at all times as part of managing themselves as responsible learners. Please note that the school does not store lost property and encourages all students to take care of their belongings hence they must all be named clearly.



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Welcome to New Students/Families

A very special welcome to the 45 new students and their families who have started for the first time with us this week. We hope your association with Mission Heights Primary will be long and happy in the years ahead. Each one of our students bring special talents and expertise to our school and we are delighted to start our 2019 year with such an excited and wonderful group of new students and families coming on board. At our week 3 assembly - 15 February, we will be welcoming all our new staff and families with a powhiri. All welcome.

Year 6 Camp 2019 - Parent Information Evening

The information evening for the Year 6 camp is Monday 18 February at 6.00pm in the Meeting Place. The camp will be Tuesday 19 March - Friday 22 March. Information is being sent home with students.

Term 1 Events

February

1	School Assembly
4	Kids Safe with Dogs MLC
5	Kids Safe with Dogs SLC
6	Waitangi Day holiday
7	Student Council PD Day
	St Johns in School LZ19
11	Kids Safe with Dogs MLC
12	Kids Safe with Dogs MLC
	St Johns in School SLC
13	Meet the Teacher Evening
	St Johns in School SLC
15	School Assembly - Powhiri
	St Johns in School SLC
18	Year 6 Camp Meeting for Parents
21	MHP Swim Carnival
	Board of Trustees Meeting
22	SLC Assembly
26	HPPA Cricket Field Day
	Kids Safe with Dogs JLC
27	Goal Setting Meetings
	Kids Safe with Dogs JLC
28	Goal Setting meetings
	School closes at 1.00pm

March

1	School Assembly
8	MLC Assembly
11-15	Book Week
12	HPPA Cricket Field Day
14	HPPA Swimming Event
15	School Assembly
	Dress up Day - Book Week
18	Get Wise Programme Year 1
19-22	Year 6 Camp
19	Get Wise Programme Year 2
22	JLC Assembly
26	HPPA Girls Cricket Field Day
29	Mufi Day



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April

1-5	10th Anniversary Celebration Week
4	HPPA Cultural Festival
5	Special Celebration Assembly Picnic in the Courtyard
8	Get Wise Programme Year 3
9	Get Wise Programme Year 4
10	Get Wise Programme Year 5
11	Get Wise Programme Year 6
12	ACE Assembly Last Day of Term 1 Students finish at 1.00pm Library is closed after School

Please note the calendar of events maybe subject to change, however we will endeavour to advise parents as soon as possible if changes occur. Please refer to MHP Online for updates too.

2 019 Term dates

Term 1

29 January – 12 April
Waitangi Day holiday
Wednesday 6 February

Term 2

29 April - 5 July
Queen's Birthday holiday
Teacher Only Day
Monday 3 June
Tuesday 4 June

Term 3

22 July - 27 September

Term 4

14 October - 13 December
Labour day Holiday
Monday 28 October

