

## Mission Heights Primary School

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## MHPS NEWS

### Mission Heights Primary School Newsletter

Issue 5 / June 2019

[www.mhp.school.nz](http://www.mhp.school.nz)

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#### Principal's Message

As Mission Heights Primary school heads towards the next phase of its 20 year journey, we are fortunate to have some continuing and new board members who will bring a wealth of intellectual, community and social capital along with analytical skills to the benefit of our young school.

Congratulations to the elected parent trustees, Ajenesh Lal (Chair person), Andrew Pratley, Sian Grant, Anne Singh and Jenny Wang, and our staff Trustee Karen Hishey. The role of a school trustee is complex and we have been served by some very supportive boards at MHP in past years. The departing Board is no exception to this – Chris French, John Bassano, Rohit Prasad and Jing Zhang can all leave the Board knowing that they have made an important contribution to MHP through what has been a very significant time of growth and sustained development for our school that has now completed a significant 10 year milestone.

The relationship between the Board and Principal is most significant for any school, and I am looking forward to having an open, highly engaged relationship with the incoming board. Together we are poised to move the powerful vision of 'Growing excellence- Kia Hiranga Ake through providing innovative, constantly evolving personalised learning' forward for the greater good of all our students and ensure that MHPS remains at the forefront of NZ education.

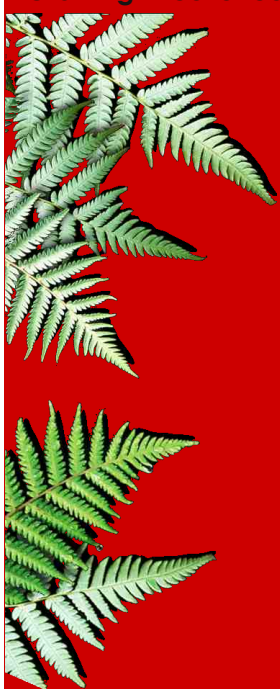
Being in our eleventh year of operation we are still a very young yet leading edge school, however I certainly know that we have yet to reach the top of our mountain and a lot of work is still to be done. Additional to this landscape at MHP are the powerful education reform initiatives that have made headlines recently such as the Tomorrows Schools reforms, a globally focused curriculum, alongside an increased focus on digital skills and technology, media, networking and social and emotional well being and learning of our students. In fact there has never been a more important time in our educational environment to ensure that schools can be the agents of change who are empowered to deliver on the promise of these new educational reforms and exciting initiatives that are coming.

In such a demanding educational scenarios, it was heartening this week for me to see a snapshot at our Teacher Only Day of how our teachers across the Flatbush cluster of schools along with 250 others worked collaboratively to share their best practices and how they are making a difference to each and everyone of their students – reflecting and challenging their current practice, eager to persevere with new professional learning in line - to deliver a legacy of a strong personalised curriculum that is truly embedded in classroom practice that values the culture, abilities and passions of each and every student.

With a new Board, a dedicated staff and a supportive school community, I am confident as Principal that MHP is perfectly positioned to deliver the strategic goals of a future focused education alongside the growing compliance scenario.

**Kind regards**  
**Veena Vohra**  
**Principal**

#### "Growing Excellence"



### 3 Way Conferences

Student led conferences have ended this week. There was an average of 99% attendance by parents across the school. Reporting to parents included personal progress against Curriculum levels, current achievement and setting of learning goals to enable students to achieve their next steps with their learning.

### T ravelwise

We had the Zebra mascot out on our crossing one morning. The students enjoyed walking alongside him. The objective was to highlight our zebra crossing and remind our community that it's the safest place to cross. Our Year 3 and 4 students were offered a Scooter Skills training session. The session started with helmet safety checks. They learned about sneaky driveways, reversing cars and sharing the road with others. They even learned how to make an emergency stop! They had heaps of fun while learning.



### F lat Bush 7 Cluster

On 4th June Mission Heights Primary collaborated with the other schools in the Flat Bush 7 cluster to provide a day of professional learning for all of the teachers in the area. The day allowed the teachers to learn more from each other and from expert speakers on subjects such as inquiry, connections, well being, and cultural responsiveness. Thank you to our community for supporting us to take part in such great learning.



"Growing Excellence"



## Howick Historical Village Trip

"What a wonderful day for our trip", I said to myself. The sun was up and not a cloud in sight. Pretty unusual for a winter season. We left for Howick Historical Village dressed up in our olden day clothes. It was so old fashioned!

When we arrived our first activity was to explore the houses from the 1850's. It was amazing to see how people lived in the past and the gadgets they used. Next we made butter by churning some fresh cream. Yep, no electricity. The children were the churners and we had to sing a rhyme as we span the handle. There was one rule in the village which I adored: ladies are always first!

Another fun activity we did was to play the victorian games. We played the ring game where we had to stretch the rope into a circle and pass the ring around. A volunteer had to guess who had it at last. I was trying to keep still and was shocked when my friend guessed my name. The next game was called the love letter which was like duck duck goose but instead of saying "goose" you throw a letter. I was glad I didn't have to chase anyone.

The final activity was called "the unpacking of the trunk". There we investigated why people migrated to New Zealand. Some of the reasons were: the potato famine, education, work and better lifestyle. I am glad my family choose to come to New Zealand and settle here. It was an amazing trip and we all had a great time learning about the past.

By Hasita Suryadevara (LZ30)



## Market Day

Money Maths @Market Day was a huge success. Team Enterprise learnt about displaying and selling merchandise. Our young students were able to use their maths skills to purchase items and calculate their change. The hall was buzzing with energy!



## Sports

This term has been a busy one for sport. We have had teams involved in Netball, Basketball Rugby, Soccer and Hockey. They have participated or will participate in HPPA Field Days and interschool competitions. All teams have been doing really well and representing MHP in an excellent manner. We are now beginning to train for the MHP cross country which happens early in Term 3. A big thank you to the parents who help with coaching and transporting our students. We couldn't do it without you!

In Term One we introduced soccer and cricket. We entered teams into the local HPPA competition and fun days.

In Term Two we were privileged to be able to work with Marist Eastern Rugby Club and their new initiative to get all students exposed to the skills of rugby. The whole school has been involved in this and by the end of next week all classes would've had 4 specialised coaching sessions. Alongside this is a focus on Cross Country Training. Hopefully, all classes are now in a good fitness routine working towards cross country early next term.

We have also begun Basketball, Rugby, Netball, Soccer and Hockey this term. We have one basketball team, 1 Rugby Team, 2 Netball Teams, 2 Soccer Teams and 2 Hockey Teams. All of these teams have been, are currently or will be involved in an HPPA competition or fun day this term.



## 2019 Triennial Board Elections

Congratulations to the elected Board who will be working over the next 3 years along side the school management. Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2019 Triennial Board Elections. We had a great response from our community.



## 2019 Term dates

### Term 1

Tuesday 29 January –  
Friday 12 April

Easter Monday - 22  
April

Easter Tuesday - 23  
April

### Term 2

Monday 29 April –  
Friday 5 July

Queens Birthday –  
Mon 3 June

Teacher Only Day –  
Tues 4 June

### Term 3

Monday 22 July –  
Friday 27 September

### Term 4

Monday 14 October –  
Friday 13 December  
Labour Day – Monday  
28 October

"Growing Excellence"

