

# COUNTIES MANUKAU SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

On Friday of Week five, Mr. Shephard and I took eight of the Manurewa Intermediate elite swimmers to the Counties Manukau Swimming Championship in Pukekohe.

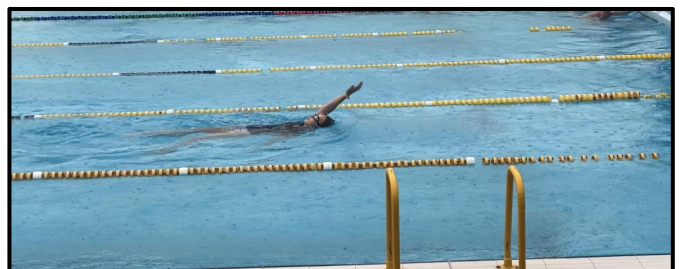
Preparations were hindered as Swimming Sports was cancelled due to cyclone Gabrielle. There was only one trial/training session for the event, but as we all know life can be hard, but Rewa is harder.



While the swimmers were always going to get wet, the conditions were substandard on the day for the spectators, as they braved the wet and windy conditions. Weather aside, our swimmers did well with Jett Denton-Woodhouse, Sadaraka Pomare-Matua and Olivia Carter making the finals in three of their events, while the other swimmers also showed great promise. I am looking forward to starting the MI swimming elite team once Mr Taylor opens our amazing pool! This will allow us to train all through winter and be more competitive next year.

I'd like to thank Mr Shephard for coming along on the day, but especially to the eight swimmers that gave it their all in non-ideal preparations or on the day with the conditions. You showed the true qualities of being an MI student in competing to your best ability and making the school proud.

Miss C. Hape





# COUNTIES ZONE SOFTBALL



Our Girls Softball team competed in the Counties Manukau Zone competition to start off their softball campaign. Our Year 7 girls flew through their round robin and successfully took out the competition advancing to the Auckland Champion of Champions Tournament. Our Year 8 girls had a more challenging day making their way to semi finals going down by one against a strong St Annes team. Our Year 8 team finished off the tournament taking home third place. An amazing effort from a group of girls who have never played a game of softball in their life! Two weeks and eight trainings later our Year 7 girls made their way over to the North Shore to compete in the Auckland Champions Tournament. We played four games back to back and came out first in pool A, advancing to crossovers and going up against a strong Henderson team full of club players. Our girls put up a good fight but unfortunately came away without the win. We then played for third and fourth, winning 3rd place in Auckland. Proud would be an understatement - the girls really put on a great show and reaped the rewards.



The Year 7 and 8 boys ventured to Prince Edward Ball Park to compete in the Counties Manukau Softball Zone tournament. Both teams played superb and won their way to semi-finals. Our Year 8 boys went down against a strong Pukekohe side resulting in a second place finish, a huge accomplishment considering most haven't played softball before. Our Year 7 boys played GREAT team softball and collectively won their way to a first place finish securing their spot to compete in the Auckland Champions tournament.

The Year 7 Boys played an excellent tournament in the North Shore. All students represented our school with great sportsmanship and humility. They were described as a powerhouse team with many of the crowd cheering and supporting. D'Taynian pitched excellently and led the team well. Kai filled in at catcher and kept the home base secure. Jadyne also showed leadership throughout the tournament and ensured base one was guarded at all times. There was a close call against Bucklands Beach Intermediate where we managed to gain a one point lead. The boys brought home the championship, defeating and destroying all who stood in their path. Every student played and behaved like the champions they are winning the Auckland schools Champions of Champions!





# ZONE CRICKET

On Tuesday 14th March some of our selected mixed Year 7 & 8 students competed in the Counties Manukau Zone Cricket event held at Bruce Pulman Park. The last time Manurewa Intermediate competed in Cricket was back in 2018 pre pandemic, so after dusting off the cricket bats and getting in some vital training sessions we headed into the competition ready to give it our best shot! We are not known for our cricket and a lot of our students sporting passions lie elsewhere, however, through raw sporting talent, a positive mindset and the ability to learn new skills quickly our students managed to place a respectable fifth out of ten zoned schools. We were also the only Boy and Girl mixed team in the competition. All in all the students had a great day and for many they got to compete in a sport that is foreign to them.





# COUNTIES ZONE TAG

On Friday 17th March the girls tag team and boys 'Black' and 'White' tag teams took part in the Counties NZTFI Intermediate Tag Tournament at Ngati Otara Park. All teams had worked hard to prepare as best they could to ensure they were in with a chance to come out on top of their sections. With the recent Junior Oceania Cup tournament, many of our students came into the Intermediate competition with much needed experience.

Our girls team blew every team out of the park and convincingly won their final against Clendon Park 20-0. The girls showed great teamwork and communication in all their games.

Our two boys teams did extremely well. The other two schools watched our boys play throughout the day, and knew that they had to come up with something special to outplay them. Our two boys teams finished the day playing each other in the final. Team Black were too strong for Team White and pulled off a 10-0 win, crowning them Counties Zone Champions for 2023.

Both our girls and boys (Team Black) teams have qualified for the Auckland Champion of Champions tournament which is on Tuesday 4th April.



## Results:

### Girls

Manurewa vs. Pukekohe 16-0 Win

Manurewa vs. Clendon Park 12-0 win

Manurewa vs. Reremoana 24-0 Win

SEMI-FINAL: Manurewa vs. Pukekohe 28-0 Win

FINAL: Manurewa vs. Clendon Park 20-0 Win

### Boys

Manurewa White vs. Pukekohe 10-2 Win

Manurewa Black vs. Reremoana 28-0 Win

Manurewa White vs. Manurewa Black 10-4

Manurewa Black vs. Pukekohe 24-0 Win

Manurewa White vs. Reremoana 18-2 Win

SEMI FINAL: Manurewa Black vs. Reremoana 30-0 Win

SEMI FINAL: Manurewa White vs. Pukekohe 8-2 Win

FINAL: Manurewa Black vs. Manurewa White - 10-0



# COUNTIES ZONE FOOTBALL

On a crisp Wednesday morning the boys football teams headed to Drury Football Complex to compete in the Counties Zone Tournament. With a tough draw putting MI with tournament favourites Rosehill in the same pool it was never going to be easy.

The Year 8 boys worked hard and could not be faulted for their effort. Some great defending from Aisea and Aryan who were not afraid of doing all the dirty work for little reward along with the tireless effort in midfield from Kahlei, Leon and Trey amongst others. At the attacking end, Houston, Jett and Brandon provided the goals along with several missed chances too! The boys finished a credible fifth in a tough competition. I want to thank the boys for their hard work and effort, especially those who played last year as well. Thank you for taking the time to play and enjoy "the beautiful game".

The Year 7 boys were in footballing words "a joy to watch!" In my time at MI I haven't seen a boys team play as fluent football as these lads. They moved the ball well and, in all their games, looked dangerous and showed they could score goals while keeping the back tight. They finished a very well deserved fourth, which was an awesome effort; they have a bright future for next year! I would love to name a standout player, however as a team I loved watching them and seeing how well they gelled. I look forward to seeing them go again next year. Shout out to Mr Shephard who coached the boys and refereed a couple of games too.

Mr Cope





# MI Brothers Rugby 2023

In close to perfect rugby conditions at Bruce Pulman Park- both the Restricted and Opens competed in the 2023 Counties Manukau Zone Day for Rugby. With strong rugby teams in both the Restricted and Open pools the going was not going to be straight forward nor easy for the boys. Pure mental attitude and the willpower of 'not downing tools' and not giving any team an inch would have to be on point.

The restricted team worked very well in their pool, with a straight winner takes all. The boys played four games, playing exciting, fast running rugby. Attacking the line, side stepping, with the forwards setting up a good platform for the backs, the boys managed to win all of their games. This resulted in them winning their U55 KG grade.

The open team were matched against some good teams during the day, who had some big ball carriers and were physical. The boys matched this with some solid tackling and pure dedication in defense. Finding themselves down at half time in their last three games, the boys dug deep to come back in the fashion they did. Fitness and conditioning a key cornerstone of the team's efforts during their campaign, they defeated Rosehill in the final, scoring after the hooter had signalled for full time.

Both teams have shown awesome efforts, commitment and dedication to their teammates during their journey for 2023. They should be really happy and proud. We now move on to the Interzone Championship Day at Avondale Racecourse.





# Girls Rugby

On Tuesday 13th June the MI Girls Open rugby team travelled to Bruce Pulman Park to compete in the Counties Zone Rugby Tournament.

With the sun shining the Sisters were in hot form against North Counties in their first game outshining them 40 - 0. The girls faced off against Te Mātauranga School in their second game and ran away with a 51 - 0 win. Their third game of the day was against a more drilled Finlayson Park team. The MI girls would string a few back to back tries together to come away victorious 22 - 5. In the final game of pool play the girls came up against Papakura Intermediate School and won 41 - 0.

In the semi-finals we came up against a very staunch Greenmeadows Intermediate team. With a strong team display we were able to score points from every part of the field. At full time we had piled on 45 unanswered points and would move on to the finals.

This set up a final against Finlayson Park who won their semi final. The MI girls were led throughout the day by their captain Wharariki and the final was no different. The girls knowledge of the game was too much for Finlayson Park and they ran away with a 39 - 5 win. On top of that, all 16 girls in the MI team had scored a try throughout the tournament.

The MI Sisters would like to thank their coaches Mr Peilua and Miss Iakopo for all the time, effort and knowledge they have input into the team. Auckland Champs here we come.

Our U55kg team will also compete at Auckland champs.

## MI Open Girls - 2023 Counties Champions



### Tournament stats:

Games  
Won 7  
Lost 0

Standing: Atwinna Tovia, Litea Taukapo, Gloria Lamusitele, Kahu Panapa, Izabella Teinakore-Lemanu  
Middle: Tryphosa Pasika, Jahnei Kaiwai-Peapea, Angelina Panapa-Lote, Luisa Veiqaravi, Croydan Arama, Lalita Time  
Front: Evana Samisoni, Tryphena Pasika, Briana Diaz, Wharariki Panapa, Krysdeenah Mariner



# Girls Hockey

On Tuesday 20th June, our girls hockey team put in a spirited performance competing in the Counties Manukau Schools Hockey in Pukekohe. For the majority of the team this was their first time playing hockey, so winning **three** out of **five** games was an amazing show of their hard work.

The highlight of the day was a 2-0 win against our neighbours Greenmeadows Intermediate, with both teams playing with passion and pride.

Special thanks to Mr D and Whaea Bella for their support on the day!

A special mention to the following players:

- **Sylvie MacDonald** - An excellent attitude and the most improved player.
- **Briana Diaz** - Most valuable player.
- **Mia Nash** - A high work rate and dedication as the team goalie.

Field hockey is not a usual sport from M.I. but it offers a dynamic and enriching experience, combining skill development, teamwork, and hard work. The girls worked hard to improve their skills and strategies at practice and led to their success at the Counties Manukau zone tournament.





# GIRLS RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP DAY

On Wednesday 21st June, our Open and U55kg girls rugby teams competed for the Auckland Champion of Champions titles. The Open grade was made up of two pools. The girls played three games, and had to win them all to top their pool and play in the final.

Their first game against Ferguson Intermediate started off slowly, however the girls found their rhythm and walked away from the field as 35 - 0 winners. In their second game they faced a determined Bailey Road outfit. MI proved too quick and powerful, winning the game 40 - 0. The final match of pool play was against a big and skilful Holy Cross team. The girls played this game like it was a final, putting their best foot forward. In the end the girls ran away with a demolishing 31 - 5 win.

This set MI up in a final against Kedgley Intermediate who topped the other pool. It proved to be an intense and physical final, however MI was too strong in the end and won 35 - 10!

The U55kg grade was made up of three teams including us. The other two teams were Birkdale Intermediate and Kedgley Intermediate. Our girls had never played a game of rugby together before and were eager for the whistle to blow. They did extremely well and outplayed both teams. They won their first game against Kedgley Intermediate 25 - 0 and then their game against Birkdale Intermediate 40 - 0. They went on to play Kedgley Intermediate in the final and won 35 - 0.

**We are proud to say that we are the Auckland Intermediate Girls  
Open and U55kg Rugby Champions!!!**





# Boys Rugby Championship Day

On June 20th, the Restricted and Open XV's eagerly made their way to Mt Wellington War Memorial Park for the highly anticipated Auckland AAIMS Interzone Championship Day. This prestigious event brought together the top school rugby teams from across Auckland, setting the stage for intense competition and thrilling matches. The opposing teams were well-prepared and organised, presenting formidable challenges to our XV's.

Throughout the day, both teams demonstrated remarkable tenacity and determination. The Open XV's battled hard, but their journey culminated in the 5th placed play-off, where they faced off against Kelston Intermediate. Despite their valiant efforts, they fell short in the match, ending their campaign on a slightly disappointing note. Nonetheless, their performance throughout the tournament showcased their skills and resilience.

Meanwhile, the Restricted team showcased exceptional teamwork and skill, earning their place in the final. With sheer grit and determination, they advanced to face the formidable Kowhai Intermediate team in a closely contested showdown. Despite their best efforts, they narrowly missed out on victory, securing a well-deserved second place in the championship. Their remarkable journey to the final was a testament to their hard work and commitment.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Mr. Seuala and Mrs. Edwards, whose support and guidance proved invaluable on the day of the tournament and throughout the season. Mr Seuala and Mr Byrne-Hansen's dedication to the team's development and success was evident, and the players are deeply grateful for their mentorship. With their assistance, the XV's were able to navigate the challenges and grow both as individual players and as a cohesive unit

Overall, the Auckland AAIMS Interzone Championship Day was a good learning experience for both the Restricted and Open XV's. Although the final outcomes may not have been ideal, the teams showcased resilience, skill, and sportsmanship. They can take pride in their performances and the lessons learned throughout the tournament, as they continue to pursue their rugby endeavors with renewed determination.

