

# MI 76ERS TAG

The 76ers Boys Tag team went to Bruce Pulman Park to compete in the Counties Zone Championship.

There were only SIX teams but there was still some tough competition for us. We had it in our minds to continue our winning streak and extend this to three years.

Very ably led by our captain Payton "Magnet Hands" Gifford. After an excellent day of Tag, we came away undefeated. We would like to thank Mr "Bad News Brown" Peilua for coaching and organising our team.



## **RESULTS:**

**Vs RANDWICK PARK**  
**14 - 0**

**Vs CLENDON PARK**  
**6 - 4**

**Vs TE MATAURANGA**  
**12 - 2**

**Vs GREENMEADOWS 10 - 3**

**Vs PUKEKOHE**  
**9 - 3**

# MI SISTERS TAG

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, the MI Sisters competed in the Counties Zone Tag competition. The Sun was out, and the birds were chirping, or maybe that was just Mr Seuala's singing.

It was a good day for Tag and we wanted to dominate. That is just what we did scoring 60 points in our five games. no teams crossed our try line that day!



We would like to say a special thank you to Mr "Api Koroisau" Seuala and Mr "Koko B Ware" Tanaki for coaching us.

Auckland Champs here we come!

## **RESULTS:**

**Vs RANDWICK PARK 16 - 0**

**Vs CLENDON PARK 9 - 0**

**Vs TE MATAURANGA 18 - 0**

**Vs GREENMEADOWS 14 - 0**

**Vs PUKEKOHE 8 - 0**

# Counties Zone Swimming

On Friday the 19th of March 2021, we attended the Counties Zone Swimming at Jubilee Park in Pukekohe. We were really happy to be given the opportunity to attend after it was postponed due to lockdown earlier in the term!

Unfortunately, we could not run the training sessions that we had planned at the beginning of the year (due to Lockdown). However, our swimmers were confident enough to participate and completed their races with ease.

Reremoana Clark (Room 11), Toryn Togiatu (Room 15) and Stanton Heka (Room 34) were our school representatives. They took part in the 50 metre freestyle and 50 metre backstroke heats. They did a great job and did our school proud.

We did not make it through to the finals but well done to Reremoana, Toryn and Stanton for their awesome effort and commitment. We look forward to getting more training in, before participating again next year! Bring on 2022!

Mrs Knibbs



# BOYS FOOTBALL



(Year 7 and 8 teams)

## **Trials and Practice**

Manurewa Intermediate is known for its great rugby, basketball, and netball teams but football has not been a strong sport in the school. This year however boys in our school have shown a tremendous interest in football with huge numbers turning up at the trials. After the panels were selected the boys' dedication to training surprised their coaches Mr. Bryans and Mr. Bacon. The boys had to learn how to play as a team and try not to attempt to dribble past all of their opponents. After a few training sessions, the Year 7 and 8 teams began to gel together just as the Zone Football competition was coming up.

## **Counties Zone Football Competition - Drury Football Club**

As our bus arrived at Drury Football Club we knew that many of the other teams had more football experience than us but our boys were quietly determined. Our Year 7's were up first:

- Year 7 Boys: The Year 7s were getting better and better each game and in our last two games scored some brilliant goals. Unfortunately, it was not to be the Year 7 team's day. They lost many of their games as they found themselves up against skilled teams like The Gardens, Greenmeadows, and Pukekohe. Mr. Bryans and Mr. Bacon were very impressed at the boys' ability to be resilient and try their best until the final whistle. They were constantly respectful, always congratulating the other teams and shaking their hands even in the most frustrating losses. This team will be back next year and will be very competitive.

- Year 8 Boys: The Year 8 boys went from strength to strength in each game. They won their group edging out Strathallan, Rosehill and getting a last-minute winner against Strathallan. The Year 8 team topped their group and made it into the final where they would face Pukekohe.

### **A Dramatic Final!**

The Year 8 team started strong and Payton Gifford scored a goal from a corner kick. Pukekohe came back with a goal of their own as the two teams continued to battle until the full-time whistle was blown. The Year 8's regrouped for a tough five minutes of extra time, a notable slide tackle from Joe Fatongiatau stopping a Pukekohe attack.

Extra time was over and it was time for a penalty shootout. After a quick talk from Mr. Bryans and Mr. Bacon, Marcel Webb volunteered to go in goal. Benjamin, Payton, Mohammed, Onree and Lisandro stepped up to take penalties. Marcel saved all of the shots and all of the boys took their penalties like professionals! Manurewa Intermediate had won the Counties Zone Football competition for the first time in its history! Both the Year 7 and Year 8 teams were gracious and respectful for the entire day, they were a credit to our school and their whānau.



(The Year 8 team during penalties!)

***MANUREWA INTERMEDIATE WIN THEIR FIRST BOYS SOCCER TOURNAMENT EVER!***

# GIRLS FOOTBALL 2021

This year we are lucky enough to get the ball rolling for Girls Football as last year we missed out due to COVID-19. It was amazing to see so much interest in playing the 'Beautiful Game', especially with girls! Congratulations to those who trialled and to those who were selected to play in the Zone Tournament next term.



We started with trials and it was encouraging to see so many skills and so much potential on display. Football is a very skilled game and takes a lot of practise, commitment and competitiveness to play - and the girls definitely brought this to the field! A big thank you to those staff members involved - Miss Orr, Mrs Knibbs, Miss Tewhata & Mr Bryans - for your time and energy involved in selecting, coaching and managing the teams.

It was tough selecting our Zone Girls Soccer team, and the selected players are busy training on Tuesdays & Fridays to get ready for the Zone Tournament on Tuesday 11th May (Week 2, Term 2).



The girls are developing skills in ball control and handling, keeping positions and communicating with other players and to implement these during a game.

The girls are excited to participate in the competition and we wish them luck for their competition day. They have been working hard and we know they will represent MI with pride and honour. LESHG0000!

## Girls Soccer Zone Competition Team - 2021

Y7 Football Team		Y8 Football Team	
Zebulun	69	Janaiya	30
Harmony	29	Phoenix	13
Fabianni	23	Jessica	12
Lupe Paeara	29	Precious	12
Wendy	24	Zantye	12
Alesha Patrick	73	Keisha	34
Hanrietta	34	Tonga	28
Sienna	30	Maddy	75
Marley	23	Deyzhan	25
Gabrielle	30	Fiffri	23
Halo	23	Reign	23
Jasper	34	Kataraina	30
Leah	30	Skye	23
Amena	28	Arushi	69
Asharliyah	28	Mele	30
Eliza	78	Hevynlee	23

# The Manurewa Tag Times



On Thursday 8th April the MI Sisters Tag team competed in the Auckland Champion of Champions Tag tournament held at Cox's Bay, Westmere. This tournament consisted of the top 16 schools from the greater Auckland region.

The Sisters played three pool games, easily dispatching their first opponent Marina View School 6 - 2 led fiercely by Violet and Skye's leaders. In their second game, the Sisters were met with stronger competition in the form of Glen Eden Intermediate. Just like the first game they were able to dig deep and come away with another victory. Long-range tries from Nakeisha and Halo helped them seal the win. In their 3rd game of the day, the Sisters were happy to have reinforcements Jordy and Reign join the squad after going the first two games with only two subs. This gave the girls the boost they needed to win. Some amazing playmaking in the middle by Fab and Heavenlee helped secure the win.







This had the girls in high hopes heading into the sudden death playoffs. They would come up against a strong Kedgley Intermediate team full of experienced tag players. A strong first half by the Sisters with some strong defence by Mele and J-Lynn had the girls up 4 nil at the half.

The second half would turn out to be a nail biter with Kedgley scoring 5 quick tries to go up 5-4. With a short amount of time remaining the Sisters fought back to equal it up before the final hooter. This meant that the game would go down to a golden point drop off. Extra time went back and forth and after a few controversial calls, Kedgley managed to break the deadlock. This meant the Sisters would now playoff for the bronze medal.

The day's final match would see the Sisters dominate Pt England school in the bronze medal playoff. Strong performances from Deyzharn and Zantye meant we would return to school with a medal around our necks.

The MI Sisters would like to thank their coaches, Mr Segeyaro Seuala and Mr Fuihui Tanaki, for their time.



### MI SISTERS

Back: Mele Liufau, Nakeisha Sefatu, Skye Hohepa, Reign Bevan-Kau, Heavenlee Paul, J-Lynn Robert, Zantye Sheppard, Deyzharn Terry Barnes

Front: Halo Matthews, Jordy Teleti, Violet Hiku, Fab Ngapara

Absent: Fiffri Ioane, Ana Nauarabata

# MI Netball Academy

This year we have been very fortunate to be a part of the Manurewa Netball Development Programme. This is when two coaches from Manurewa Netball, Jas and Dina will come to school and coach our top Year 7 and 8 teams every Thursday for the next 8 weeks.

The 24 girls selected for the teams had their first session in Week 10 last term. The Year 7's focussed on becoming an option, finding space and getting to know their teammates. The Year 8's learnt about how to move the ball through the court, losing their player to get free and driving onto the ball. It was awesome to see everyone engaged, putting 100% effort into their training and being very respectful to Coach Jas and Dina.



After their skills training the Year 7 team versed the Year 8 team. It was great to see that everyone was applying the techniques they learnt to their

games. This was a valuable time for our Coaches to see what other things both teams needed to work on. Both teams were always positive and willing to listen to feedback to better themselves as Netball players.

We are all very excited to continue with this awesome training programme. We'd like to thank Manurewa Netball for providing us with this amazing opportunity!

## Congratulations to these girls that made it into the Year 7 and Year 8 A Teams!

Year 7 Team		Year 8 Team	
Coach: Miss Orr		Coach: Miss Tewhata	
Eliza - 78	Dream - 34	Freddy - 29	Deyzharn - 25
Gabby - 30	Tiare - 19	Kata - 30	Hevynlee - 23
Jane - 30	Amena - 28	Jordyn - 30	Skye - 23
Monique - 30	Fab - 23	Janaiyah - 30	Nikita - 23
Sienna - 30	Halo - 23	Tonga - 28	Reign - 23
Chloe - 75	Marley - 23	Siana - 69	Kilarney - 23

Don't forget our eight teams will be competing in the M.I. Netball Academy every Thursday after school on the G.O.A.T. This is to ensure all our girls who are keen on netball get to participate.

# ***BOYS RUGBY UNION 15'S OPENS AND RESTRICTED***



Another rugby union season is upon us here at Manurewa Intermediate. After a trial involving over 70 students the final opens and restricted teams were selected to represent Manurewa Intermediate for the Counties Zone Day on June 1st 2021 down at Bruce Pulman. This season will no doubt be as tough as in previous years with the competition as fierce as ever. The young men have been hard at work on the field, improving at their fitness levels, ball skills and getting used to the game plan, which requires a fast and mobile approach. It has been really pleasing to see everyone getting stuck in and absorbing all the new information. Led from the front by the Captain Payton Gifford, we are reaching our squad checkpoints well, with a big focus on the mental strength game, being focussed in the jobs on the pitch and knowing what to do. We are gearing up well for our first away fixture on May 28th 2021 against Royal Oak Intermediate which should provide us with a fantastic platform to put into practise what will be needed for the zone day. We will continue to work hard in the lead up to this and will be training in the holidays to give us maximum chances for success.

# EUROPEAN HANDBALL

We are the MI mixed European Handball Team and would like to introduce ourselves and our sport. Most of you haven't heard of European Handball and are not familiar with this sport but have heard of Olympic Handball. Here is a short explanation of the sport we play.



European Handball is a mixture of soccer, basketball and netball. The ball is a little bit smaller than a netball and the aim of the game is to score as many goals by throwing the ball into the goal of the opponent team. We play it either in the gym or on the GOAT, depending if other school teams need to use the gym. The only thing we need are the two big, blue mats, they are our goals, because we don't have real handball goals at school, but that's totally ok for our practice.



Our team practises every Friday from 3.15 to 4.30pm from Term 1 to Term 4 and everyone is welcome to join us any time during the year. Because of the big choice of after school activities not everyone can come every week throughout the whole year which is totally ok. So we are a team that plays just for fun as we haven't heard of a school tournament yet but last year there was one planned that got postponed because of Covid-19. We are just waiting for the announcement for the tournament or even for other schools that we can play against.



far



Here are some comments from some players why they chose European Handball and what they like about it:

Peto: "European Handball was the only afterschool activity I was interested in after watching a video about it and I really like the activities and short games we do every training."

Joe: "I wanted to try something new and European Handball sounded cool. I like the way European Handball is played."

Elijah: "It was a sport I haven't tried before. I like that sport like it is because it's soccer with your hands."

Maurizio: "That sport is fun and I played it last year. I like the game because I like being a goalkeeper."

# **Manurewa Gaelic Football Team and the Irish team visit**

On Saturday, May 22nd Manurewa Intermediate (M.I.) Gaelic Football team got an opportunity to experience Irish culture. The schools team manager Mr. Bacon, invited Marist Rangers GAA club members down to Manurewa to help train the students. The response rate from the Irish was immense as the excitement of meeting Māori and Pacific Island students, among other ethnicities, was a whole new experience.

## **How did this all start?**

Mr Bacon, began training his Year Seven and Year Eight students in Gaelic Football as an after-school activity every Monday in 2020 with the help of Ms Orr and Mr Stewart. The students really enjoyed it and began to pick up the skills very quickly. Popularity grew and this year more students joined. With training taking a much more improved level, the students soon enough turned into a proper GAA team. Being a member of the Marist Rangers GAA Club, Mr Bacon thought it would be a great opportunity for the Manurewa Intermediate GAA team to experience a proper training session and a match with members of the Marist Rangers Club. In exchange for their help, the Marist members would get to experience a Pōwhiri (Māori welcoming ceremony) and the school Haka. Mr Taylor, along with the school sports leader Junior Peilua were extremely accommodating, even offering money to cover the cost of Hangi ingredients (Māori traditional meal). Ms Tamaki (M.I. culture leader) and Ms Henare (Kapa Haka leader) helped prepare the students for the Pōwhiri and kindly made the Hangi.



## **A Day of Culture Exchange and Sport**

The day was a huge success, with 18 members of the Marist Rangers GAA club being welcomed onto the school grounds through a Pōwhiri (a Maori welcoming ceremony that involves songs and speeches). The students made a welcome speech and sang a song. Padraic did a Mihi (speech) in Te reo Māori and Irish followed by the Marist Rangers singing the traditional Irish song Oró Sé do Bheatha 'Bhaile. The Marist Rangers were really

impressed when the students performed their School Haka in front of them. Once the cultural formalities had taken place, both Marist and the M.I. students were getting excited to see some GAA action with many questions from the students on the run up to the upcoming training session.

### **Training and a Big Game**

The training worked as a four drill rotation. There were four Marist coaches at each drill. Students were split up in groups and moved on from a drill after ten minutes. This gave students a chance to engage with the coaches and learn various Gaelic Football skills. The Marist coaches did a great job getting involved where they could. One particular favourite was the shoulder drill where students had to shoulder a Marist coach armed with a pad. Marist's own Nathan Tanevesi got more than he bargained for with some hefty shoulders from the students! The laughing and encouragement coming from all four corners of the pitch was something else.

We had a thrilling mixed adults and students game. It was great to see boys, girls, men and women of all different cultures and backgrounds working on the same team. It was a competitive game and the adults were very impressed with the skills shown by the students. The Manurewa Intermediate team got to play a proper game with experienced GAA players and they loved every minute of it.

After the game we all sat down together and ate delicious Hangi. Both students and adults were delighted with the day and on the following Monday students were already asking Mr. Bacon when they get to play with their Irish friends again.



# **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Our 'Girls Basketball Team' finally got to have a game against 'Baradene Intermediate'. The girls were expecting a tough match up, against a team that plays in a weekly competition. The girls started off on a rampage and executed the game plan perfectly.



Defence was the main concentration and the girls stayed in front of their opposition causing Baradene to mishandle the ball and turn it over. By the end of the game, the score had been pushed out to 81-6. Thanks to Baradene who travelled to our school from the city on a Friday afternoon.



We look forward to games against 'St Cuthberts', 'Ponsonby Intermediate' and 'St Marys Intermediate'. Our girls train nine hours a week in preparation for NZAIMS Games in Tauranga in Term 3.

- Thomas Bartlett

# Zone Boys Rugby

The MI Opens and Restricted teams have continued their strong performance in the Rugby Union 15's for 2021.



The Restricted, ably led by Jayden Veitch-Tamati, only had three games as other schools struggled to fill their teams, which was disappointing. The Restricted squad worked so hard for each other against well drilled and organised schools with players who have been involved with clubs together for a good few years. They played three games and won two, losing narrowly to Pukekohe in their last game 10-0. They conducted themselves well during the course of the day, showing great sportsmanship towards their opponents.

The Opens went into this day with a lot of pressure and very high expectations, having won their grade and competition in 2019 and 2020. Each and every single one of these boys could not have given any more for their brothers - each emptied their tanks and left it all on the pitch for their five matches. Led by the talismanic club captain, Payton Gifford, who was outstanding in his games with his kicking and displaying fantastic leadership for the team. There was hard running from Bensen, Gordon and Kahurangi, supported with good control play by Kyle playing scrum half. The back line found spaces to exploit and this they did, with good runs from Khanye and Cassidy. Meeting Greenmeadows in the final, who had strong back runners, especially their full-back who gave our defence some really good work, MI won 22-0. Three years in a row: Zone Champions. Ten hard weeks of work paid off for them. Roll on the inter-Zone Day which was played yesterday, Tuesday 29th. That report will be in the July School Newsletter.

- Cian Byrne Hansen



# Zone Girls Rugby

On Thursday 9th of June, the MI Sisters travelled to Bruce Pulman Park to compete in the Counties Zone Rugby Tournament.

With the sun shining, the Sisters were in hot form against Randwick Park School in their first game outshining them 56 points to zero. Our neighbourhood rivals Waimahia would prove to be tougher competition in our second hit out for the day. The Sisters strung a few back to back tries together and came away victorious, 22 to nil.

In the semi-finals we came up against a very staunch Finlayson Park team. With a strong platform set by our forwards, our backs were able to score points from every part of the field. At full time we had piled on 44 unanswered points and moved on to the finals.

We were shocked but excited to see that Waimahia had made their way into the final. They were rearing to go and looked eager to change the result from earlier in the day. The Sisters were led throughout the day by their captains Violet and Skye, and the final was no different. Our knowledge of the game was too much for Waimahia and we ran away with the final 39 points to nil.

The MI Sisters would like to thank their Coaches Mr Seuala, Mr Peilua, Mr P, and Mr Tanaki for all the time, effort and knowledge they have put into the team. No tries scored against us. Auckland Champs here we come!



## MI SISTERS

Back: J-Lynn Roberts, Mateaki Tupou, Maliana Afu, Leah Tau, Eliza Latu, Monique Campbell, Lupe Taukapo

Middle: Halo Matthews, Nakeisha Sefatu, Mele Liufau, Violet Hiku, Zantye Sheppard, Shayna Farook, Madalyn Lafaele, Xavier Walker, Madison Rima

Front: Amy Young, Esther Toa, Skye Hohepa, Hevynlee Paul, Fabianni Napara, Brooke Tilton-Mist, Virtanya Telea, Joanne Unasa

- Ese Tofilau

# Zone Football Competition

By Joe Fatongiatau and Marcel Webb.

Our very first experience of playing football was at Manurewa Intermediate. It was an astonishing experience for us and our friends. It was cool playing sports with different people in different classes. We had at least three sessions of training every week. On Tuesday we worked on our general skills with Mr. Bryans. On Thursday, it was fitness training and first touch with Mr. Bacon. On Friday, it was all about possession and tactics with Mr Bryans and Mr. Bacon.

We would sometimes have pre-games with the girls team which helped us use our new tactics. Before we knew, the Counties Tournament was just a day away. On our last training session, we had a pre-game with the Year Seven boys. The boys were very excited about Counties. When the day came, we were the complete underdogs going into Counties. We were expected to come last, but we surprised everyone when we won all our games and made it to the playoffs. With each game we seemed to become stronger and stronger and we made it to the final. The final was very close and at full time it was a draw. In extra time there were many dangerous moments where we could have lost it. In the last few minutes I (Joe) was able to stop a goal with a slide tackle. When we went to penalties I (Marcel) was told I would be the goalie. I was a little nervous but I stopped every shot. Everyone was delighted with our win and we got a special mention from Mr. Taylor.

When we went to Auckland Championships we knew it would be difficult to win some games. We lost most of the games but we never dropped our heads. We kept fighting until the final minute of each game. We managed to score some goals and won our last game. We were proud that at least we were Counties Champions. There will be futsal (indoor football) in Term Three and we are all looking forward to it.



# CROSS COUNTRY 2021

On Thursday 17th June, our annual school Cross Country event took place. The weather was spectacular and ideal for such an event. There was much anticipation and speculation as to who was going to walk away as our top runners for 2021.

Our students started off in the hall and were called to the starting line by gender year levels. The determination by a lot of our students was evident with the look on their faces as they raced past our staff on the streets. The race started on the field, continued through our local streets, through the back gate and back on to our school field to finish. While some students were running, the others who were waiting in the hall for their turn were warming up their bodies through singing and dancing.





Well done to all students who participated. All the staff were proud of the way you got stuck into it and showed lots of pride. Special mentions to our top five runners for each race and to Rimu Whanau who won the overall points. Malo le faamalosi!

## TOP 5 PLACINGS

	YEAR 7 GIRLS	YEAR 7 BOYS	YEAR 8 GIRLS	YEAR 8 BOYS
<b>1ST</b>	Jane 30	Amos 23	Nikita 23	Kyle 71
<b>2ND</b>	Fabianni 23	Lorenzo 25	Skye 23	Jian 75
<b>3RD</b>	Gabrielle 30	Azariah 23	Hevynlee 23	Jayden 30
<b>4TH</b>	Janelle 11	Aphareus 23	Ana 23	Mark 70
<b>5TH</b>	Clare 30	Monaro 30	Syrai 69	Gordon 33

**\$857**

**RIMU**

**\$855**

**KOWHAI**

**\$653**

**KAURI**

**\$613**

**TAWA**

- Junior Peilua

# **HUSKIES VISIT**

The Auckland Huskies Basketball Team came to M.I. offering resilience workshops, basketball coaching and ultimately finding out what M.I. school singing is all about.



Our students relished the opportunity to train with some professional players and have them turn up at school singing. Check out the video on our MI Media Youtube page.



# ZONE BOYS HOCKEY



Kia ora whanau!

Boys hockey trials were held at the beginning of Term Two. We started off with low numbers and were not sure if we would be able to field a team. However, as the weeks went on, we gained some momentum and eventually ended up having to turn kids away over the last couple of weeks as we prepared for our Counties Manukau Zone Championships.

On Tuesday, June 22nd, 15 boys travelled to Pukekohe to play in the Zone tournament. Apart from one boy, no one had ever played hockey in their life before. There were also several kids who had never played on a sports team before. We started off nervous against the East Counties team and lost 1-0. Our next match was against Rosehill Intermediate. They were a little stronger than East Counties and we ended up losing 2-0. In our next match against Pukekohe Intermediate our lack of fitness caught up with us and the boys started to lose steam. We ended up losing 5-0. We regrouped in our next match against The Gardens and had a 0-0 draw. We played back to back matches for our last two games of the day. We lost 4-0 to Reremoana and 1-0 to Greenmeadows Intermediate.

Overall it was a great experience for the boys and they learned a great deal about mental toughness and team work throughout the day. They represented our school and community very well and I was proud of the way they kept trying even though we didn't have much success on the day. Well done boys!

- Trent Marsh

# **GIRLS RUGBY 7S**

MI VS ROYAL OAK | THURSDAY 8 JULY 2021

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On Thursday 8th July, Manurewa Intermediate had their first Girls 7s rugby match against Royal Oak Intermediate, in preparation for the upcoming NZ Anchor AIMS Games. The weather was perfect for rugby. With MI's on-going training since the beginning of the year, they were well drilled and ready to step up to the challenge.

MI scored the first three tries of the game before Royal Oak scored with two of their own. The girls regrouped after the first half and decided to put their foot down and finish the game strong. With excellent skills and moving of the ball our MI Girls were too good in the end. The final score was 41-17 to MI.

Our MI Girls 7s are in promising form as they enter the back end of AIMS Games preparations. We hope to secure a few more games before then.

## **AIMS 7s Squad:**

Violet Hiku 23, Nakeisha Sefatu 23, Hevynlee Paul 23, Skye Hohepa 23, Fiffri Ioane 23, Fabianni Napara 23, Halo Matthews 23, Mele Liufau 30, Maliana Afu 30, Zantyre Sheppard 12, J-Lynn Roberts 33 + Brooke Tilton-Mist 62

## **AIMS Development:**

Elida Latu 78, Lupe Taukapo 23 + Monique Campbell 30

By Junior Peilua

# MI RUGBY XV's CHAMPS

TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2021

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After winning the Counties Zone Day, the MI XV's embarked on the Champions Day held at Avondale Racecourse. This was going to be one tough day with all of the top teams from across Auckland competing. MI were drawn in the same pool as De La Salle, Howick, Kelston and St Peters. The boys were up for the challenge.

In our first game against Kelston the boys played a very structured game working their pod system well, freeing up space on the outsides where we scored from. The forwards were led by Bensen, Kahurangi and Gordon who ran hard and aggressively against the Kelston defence. Payton, the club captain, controlled the backs well, exploiting the spaces to release the wingers. We came out on top, 21-12. In our next game against Howick, we suffered a dip in our mental concentration, up against a bigger and more physical forward pack. MI continued to battle hard, where the spaces on the pitch were a lot smaller to score.

The boys eventually found some space to score, sometimes through 'route one' up the middle and eventually came out with a 15-15 draw. Our next game was up against St Peters who played a smart game plan in keeping the ball well through good continuity phases. The XV were frustrated with the lack of possession where our structure was stifled with lack of ball. We came out with a 12-0 loss, where we felt that we could have won against a big and expansive De La Salle team. MI managed to regain some of the game plan and structure found in the first game, moving the ball quickly and avoiding physical encounters. We found spaces on the edges to score, but left ourselves a lot to make up, coming out with a 12-12 draw.

I am immensely proud of the boys and their efforts over the last 13 weeks of training. To compete against established rugby union schools, with many of their opponents playing club rugby for a good few years, gaining the results we did was outstanding. Payton led from the front, creating opportunities from very little. He was supported well by Heph and Cassidy. The forwards were led by Bensen who ran hard and with aggression at the defence line. He was supported well by the likes of Gordon, Kahurangi and Sam. They should hold their heads up high with their achievements. My most humble thanks for the parents who came along to support the boys and the team. Roll on 2022 and more rugby union!

**By Cian Byrne-Hansen**



# **GIRLS BASKETBALL UPDATE**

The Manurewa Intermediate Girls Basketball Team played St Cuthberts College earlier last term at our house. The girls won this contest easily with a 48-6 victory and proved that their hard work, which started in Term 4 last year, is paying off.



The girls then ventured to St Cuthbert's College to play their Year 9 & 10 girls team during the last week of Term 2. Even though the girls were younger and smaller than their opposition, they managed to ultimately come out on top through communication, defence, skill and speed.



The final score was 65-48 and this win has been the highlight of the girls season, as this has been their toughest game yet.

The team have just finished eight two hour training sessions in the holidays and look forward to their Ponsonby tour of St Marys Intermediate and Ponsonby Intermediate this term. AIM's games are on the horizon and our ultimate goal is to finish well in this tournament.

The last highlight of the St Cuthbert's game was getting a photo with Tinihuia Lee-Lemon who plays TK's daughter on Shortland Street. She was one of St Cuthbert's best players and the girls enjoyed being able to chat with her after the game!





## **GIRLS HOCKEY**

Hockey trials were held at the beginning of Term 2 and quickly became a chance for everyone to enjoy the sport of hockey rather than being a traditional competitive trial. Most of the girls had never played hockey before joining the team. Throughout the term, the girls worked hard to develop their hockey skills, strategies and fitness to get ready for the Counties Manukau Zone tournament.

Tuesday 29th June, the day of the tournament arrived and it was pouring! The decision was made for the tournament to move to Thursday 1st July, the same day as our UN Food Fest. The girls decided to keep going with their commitment to the team and 15 girls travelled to Pukekohe with the support of Miss Douglas.

The girls were nervous and excited for their first match. This was against Reremoana School and we lost 3-0. After getting used to the size of the field and the positioning the girls headed into their second match against Pukekohe Intermediate. With no goalie and some expert strikers from Pukekohe, we came away with an 11-0 win to them.

Heading into the final match of the round robin against The Gardens, the girls were exhausted but still in high spirits. After a stunning goal from Isla we drew 1-1. Players of the day were Phoenix and Isla, for their amazing mahi all day.

Overall the girls had a great learning experience, working together against some tough competition. I am so proud of how the girls showed our school values and how they kept trying even though we didn't have much success. I'm looking forward to continuing to build our hockey team next year! A big thanks to Miss Douglas for taking the team on the day and for your awesome coaching from the sidelines. We appreciate it!

# Y7 & 8 Girls Netball Zone Day

On Tuesday of Week 2 we took two Year 8 and two Year 7 Girls teams up to the Browns Road Netball Courts to compete in the Counties Zone Netball competition. Both teams were exemplary, showed all the MI Values and had so much fun!



Over Term 2 and the holidays the Year 7 & 8 girls were training hard to practise the drills and skills needed to play the fast-paced game of Netball. Majority of the girls showed so much potential, effort and commitment during these times to learn and improve their skills. We were lucky enough to have Dina & Jas from Manurewa Netball come to help coach the girls and polish their performances.



On the day of the tournament the weather seemed to be in our favour - gale force winds and torrential downpours during the night before to clear skies while playing. The girls hit the ground running straight away with all four teams coming away with a win against the teams in the first round. This continued to the fourth round until a couple of the teams faced defeat. Nevertheless, the girls kept their heads high and attitudes were impeccable - model students to all (even the teachers!).

It was a long and tough day but the girls put in 100% effort right until the last whistle.



**Results:**

Year 8a = 2nd Place A grade  
 Year 8b = 5th Place B grade

Year 7a = 3rd Place A grade  
 Year 7b = 4th Place A grade

A massive congratulations and thanks to all the girls, coaches and whānau who were involved and supported our teams.

<b>Team</b>	<b>Y8 A</b>	<b>Y8 B</b>	<b>Y7 A</b>	<b>Y7 B</b>
<b>Most Valuable Player</b>	Janaiya	Fiffri	Fabianni	Georgiana
<b>Most Improved Player</b>	Hevynlee	Violet	Jane	Amena