

Rangitoto College Term 3 Newsletter 2024

Community event	Date
Year 12 Special Assembly	Monday 23rd September, 9am
Year 13 Special Assembly	Tuesday 24th September, 9am
Year 9 Special Assembly	Wednesday 25th September, 9am
Year 10 Special Assembly	Thursday 26th September, 9am
Year 11 Special Assembly	Friday 27th September, 9am
Pipiwaharauoa Festival	Wednesday 16th October, 4-8.30pm
Vocational Awards	Thursday 17th October
Arts Awards	Tuesday 22nd October
Maori and Pasifika Awards	Wednesday 23rd October
Sports Awards	Thursday 24th October

Principal Update

With ongoing building intensification in Auckland leading to growth pressures for schools, I was fortunate last week to visit 5 of the leading schools in Brisbane. The three state schools all had large rolls and, like ourselves, are heavily oversubscribed. Common across the schools was the need for a clear vision of teaching and learning and great systems that support the differing needs of students. The breadth of offerings we have here at Rangitoto was not surpassed by any of the schools and our academic outcomes compared favourably. What was very evident was the differing relationship the Queensland schools had with their version of the Ministry of Education, with a mix of the two systems probably being ideal. With all the Brisbane schools having fantastic buildings, I am delighted to report that we have been advised that we will be funded by our Ministry for a major new library and technology block, with the plan to start building at the end of 2025. We look forward to sharing designs for this as we work with the Ministry through the architectural process.

Māori Language week

This week is te wiki o te reo māori in Aotearoa. Staff and students have embraced this as part of our continuous journey to uphold and embed language and culture into our daily practices. Examples of recent mahi include; a whānau wānanga to celebrate māori success, kī-o-rahi, professional development for staff on te reo māori phrases, localised curriculum which has been implemented into classroom practices, and valuing the essence of karakia.

Whītikina te rā kia taua ko te ngākau hihiko - grasp the sun so that we can march together with an ambitious heart.

Sports Awards

The Sports Department is currently collating student sporting achievements as part of our planning for the annual Sports Awards. It is extremely important for our Sports Department to be informed of all results, both for teams and individuals. This includes Secondary Schools Representation, Club Representation, Regional Representation and New Zealand Representation. If your son or daughter has achieved in the above categories, please submit the form below:

<https://forms.gle/nLsG2H3bave5VkTLA>

To be considered for the 2025 Sports Awards, we need the form completed by Friday 27th September. The student achievement form to provide this information can also be found year-round on the website.

Senior Subject Selection (NCEA/IB) 2025

All Year 11 and 12 students need to select their NCEA or IB subjects for 2025 by Tuesday 15th October. They can do this by entering their choices into PC School. Students should refer to the [senior subject handbook](#) to make sure they have met the entry criteria for a particular subject. Students will then meet with their Dean in week two of Term 4 to discuss their

preferred course. Year 11 students should be aware that if their performance in the end-of-year diploma exams is not in line with their achievement during the year, Deans may need to make changes to their 2025 courses to place them into Level 2 NCEA or IB courses where they have the foundation to be successful.

Year 11 - 13 Mandarin course 2025

For 2025 and beyond the college will offer, depending on numbers, a Mandarin course for native/heritage speakers. These courses will apply to students in Years 11-13. Next week interested students will be provided with the relevant information to make appropriate course selections for 2025.

从2025年起，学校将根据针对有中文背景学生人数开设明年中文班课程。这些课程适用于11至13年级的中文背景学生。下周，感兴趣的学生将会收到相关信息，以便他们为2025年的课程选择做出明智的决策。

PCSchool Parent Portal Update

At the beginning of 2025, the school will move to solely using the PCSchool Parent Portal through PCSchool and no longer have the PCSchool App in operation. The PCSchool App is no longer supported and has poor functionality in comparison to the PCSchool Parent Portal hence the reason to remove the App from January 1 2025.

We would encourage parents who have been using the App for absence notifications to transition to using the Parent Portal before the start of next year. The Parent Portal can be accessed using a mobile phone or appropriate device and the process for absence notification is the same as it appears in the PCSchool App. Indicating the reason in writing for absence is important to ensure we can code this against MOE attendance codes. Some other features in the PCSchool Parent Portal (e.g. attendance records and live reporting) are designed to be viewed on a larger device.

Please refer to this [link](#) for images on the use of the PCSchool Parent Portal for absence notification.

Momentum Art Exhibition 2024

In Term 4 Week 1 we will be showcasing the creative talents of our Visual Arts students from Year 9 to 13 - painting, printmaking, drawing, and photography - in *Momentum*, our annual exhibition in the David Hodge Performing Arts Building. Parents are welcome to visit for the exhibition open evening, 3:30pm to 6pm Thursday 17 October, with awards being presented at 5pm, and the open day, 10am to 3pm Saturday 19 October. Join us to celebrate the incredible talent and imagination of our student-artists!

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Facebook page:

We are pleased to announce that a new official Rangitoto College Parent Teacher Association Facebook Page has been set up. Please join this page to find out information on events and provide information on the second-hand uniform shop etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1050833026428409>.

Previous versions of the Rangitoto College Parents Facebook page are not the official page of the PTA and the contents do not represent the views of the school or the PTA.

Updated Reports

Staff are in the process of updating student reports. Assessment data, student dispositions and tutor comments for years 10-13 will all be finalised by the end of Term 3.

Year 11 End-of-Year Arrangements:

- Thursday, Nov 7th last day in class before exams. Friday, Nov 8th - Year 11 study leave day.
- Year 11 Diploma Exams - November 11th - 22nd. (note: date change from the last newsletter).
- Year 11's in class for exam results and feedback Nov 25, 26 & 27th.
- Last Day for Year 11 is Nov 27th.
- Year 11 prize giving is at the start of 2025.

Host Families Wanted

Rangitoto College is looking for local families to host international students.

For information on how to become a host family please contact our accommodation team at

accommodation@rangitoto.co.nz

NCEA Revision Programme

This community program is designed to support students to be better prepared and raise their performance levels for their NCEA exams.

Classes are available across NCEA levels 2 & 3 for **Maths, English and Science** subjects taught by experienced registered teachers and held at Rangitoto College, for students from all schools. Limited spaces are available so book today.

- **NCEA REVISION CLASSES running 30 Sept - 10 Oct** these classes are content-based and revisit key topics in Mathematics, English and Science subjects Level 2 and Level 3
- **EXAM PREP CLASSES on 19 Oct & 2 Nov** these classes will review questions from past exam papers and improve answers to gain the best possible results in Level 2 and Level 3 Any questions, email events@rangitoto.school.nz



Patrick Gale
Principal