

# Rangitoto College Term 1 Newsletter 2025

21 February 2025

Important Community Information	Date
Scholarship Information Evening	Wednesday 12 March
Y12 & Y13 Parent Information Evening	Thursday 27 February

## Principal Update

The College has had early cause for celebration with some truly exceptional results from the academic and sporting arenas giving us a great start to the year. Our scholarship results place us as the leading school in New Zealand, with a significant jump from our 2023 results seeing us gain a new national record of 324 scholarships - a truly remarkable achievement that is a fantastic endorsement of the efforts and talents of our students and teachers. We were able to gather to celebrate our students' achievements at our inaugural Scholars Awards evening in the auditorium last night.



It was a privilege to watch our beach volleyball teams in action at Mount Maunganui, with students from years 11-13 representing the College at the Beach Nationals. Huge congratulations to our premier girls' pair, Devyn Golaboski and Jasmine Rugg, on their national championship win and to the boys' pair of Joshua Schaller and Kenai Stevenson on their silver in the premier division.

## Scholarship Results 2024

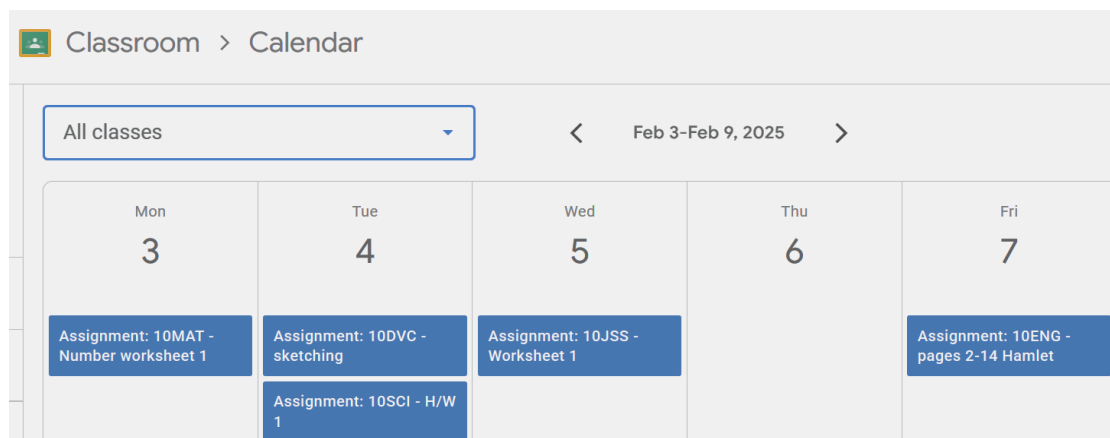
As mentioned in the Principal update, Rangitoto College students gained the most passes in the NZQA Scholarship exams across the country. This is the fifth time our students have achieved this feat since 2018. We had a record number of 1300 individual entries, with 32 of the 324 passes at the outstanding level. Scholarship passes only go to the top 3% of students in the country for each subject and we gained 8% of the total passes across all schools. 29 students gained three or more passes, with Year 11 student Joshua Wang gaining 7 passes. A special congratulations to our 2024 NCEA Dux, Lianne Kim who was awarded one of the top prizes, the NZQA Premier Award for her 10 scholarship passes, seven at outstanding level. Lianne was one of only 12 students nationwide to achieve this remarkable feat.

## Scholarship Information Evening

Our 2024 Scholarship successes, once again place Rangitoto College as one of the leading academic schools in the country. We'd like to invite students and parents in Years 10 to 13 who are interested in becoming involved in our Scholarship programme, to our annual scholarship information evening on Wednesday, March 12th starting at 6:30pm, in the college auditorium. Presentations will be from a range of staff and students who will talk about various aspects of the scholarship programme and cover some insights into the benefits of the scholarship examinations and how to be successful in them. This event is suited to students who are academically driven and motivated to achieve at the very top of their subject areas of interest. Involvement in the scholarship examinations is generally best suited to senior students in Years 11 to 13, however, some subject areas (Calculus is a good example), offer support and preparation programmes to students in Year 10. If you would like to hear more, please come along.

## Homework

The new homework guidelines have been seamlessly integrated into the teaching and learning programmes in the kura and all students from years 9-13 will have had deliberate, planned activities scheduled to complete at home. This homework complements students in class learning and allows them to practice skills, retrieve information, and consolidate their knowledge. All homework deadlines are recorded in the Google Calendar, found in students' Google Classroom, and in most cases, the homework competition will be cyclical; for example - set on day 4 and due the next day 4. Below is an example of what this might look like, noting that the colour of the entries will vary for students and subjects.



All educational research shows that the triangulation between the school, the student and whanau underpins stronger educational pathways. As such, we encourage families to support our students by asking them to see their Google calendar and talking through their homework responsibilities and deadlines. Also finding a quiet, uncluttered and well-lit space for homework completion will support our students to complete their homework to the best of their ability.

If you would like more information on good study skills, please visit the following [website](#), which has some excellent information and advice on study skills for students.

## Buses

We are pleased to announce that Auckland Transport has managed to add two extra buses from Monday 24th February. There will be an additional bus for 062 (Browns Bay via Murrays and Rothesay Bay) & 013 (Unsworth Heights via Oaktree Ave, Sartos Ave & Oteha Valley Rd). We are still working closely with Auckland Transport to find a solution for the 061 (Torbay bus). In the meantime, any overflow from the 061 bus can catch the additional 062 bus to Browns Bay and then transfer to a public bus (856) which goes along Beach Rd to Torbay.

## Onsite Hand Therapy Now Available

We have partnered with Auckland Hand Rehab to provide specialised hand therapy for students who have injuries from the elbow down, including sprains, fractures, and other ACC-covered injuries. The therapists will work in the physiotherapy rooms, providing treatment and custom-made splints or braces at no extra charge. Appointment bookings can be made by visiting the physios daily between 8.20 am and 8.40 am.

## Sports Success

We have had recent success at Beach Volleyball Nationals with our premier pairs in both the boys and girls division both bringing home medals. In the Year 11 Girls division, Zaria Ruby and Kyra O'Shanessey earned silver, while Molly Counce and Sienna Hickling-Crane secured the bronze. Congratulations to all the athletes for their amazing accomplishments, and a big thank you to the parents, coaches, staff, and supporters who made this possible.

This week, our teams participated in the Tag Football Zone Day, and we extend our congratulations to the Premier Girls team, who have successfully qualified for the Auckland Championships. Additionally, our Premier Girls Touch team has secured their place in this season's Auckland Premier Touch competition, where they have already enjoyed early-season success.

We would like to recognise Year 12 student Junsu Na for his exceptional performance in the highly competitive ICF World Canoe Slalom Ranking Competition in the U18 K1 Men's division, where he earned a bronze medal.

At Rangitoto College, we offer a wide range of sports, and there is still time to sign up for both the summer and winter seasons. If you're interested, please visit the Sports Department, where we will be happy to assist you.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Gale', with a stylized, cursive script.

Patrick Gale  
Principal