

29 August 2021

Communication to Community

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whānau whānui o Rangitoto,

With Auckland remaining in Level 4 lockdown for the upcoming week, we have settled into our online learning routines and are prepared for the extended time in our bubbles. With the government's announcement that NCEA exams are being pushed back by two weeks, we are in the process of revising school event dates. We are waiting on confirmation of the current extension to Alert Level 4 lockdown to determine when we will host our Entrance exams (scheduled for end of week 8 through until the start of week 10). Students will be advised of changes to these dates during the course of this week. We are in contact with our Year 13 Ball venue for potential back updates should our current date of 2nd October not fall within the Level 1 conditions necessary for hosting this event.

Attendance

The online engagement of our students has been encouraging during the lockdown period. Our attendance rate of 91.9% of all students attending every lesson in this period is very high, given a number of our students have been unable to attend class due to covid tests and vaccinations. We ask that parents continue to account for any absences from online lessons using the PCSchool app or PCSchool parent portal as is usual practice. We also ask that students reply to all emails from their deans in a timely fashion.

Finally, it is important that senior students who may have essential worker employment at this time, do not work extra hours during the school day which will compromise their online learning. We ask that our parents help manage these situations as they arise.

Pathways Virtual Experience

For Year 10 & 11 parents / caregivers, the **Pathways Virtual Experience will go live on Tuesday 31**st **August.** If you haven't already registered to receive the live link for the online Pathways Virtual Experience, please refer to the email which was sent on Thursday (26th August). Students will also receive the live link via email on Tuesday.

The Pathways Virtual Experience will help guide our Year 10 & 11 students to make informed subject choices for next year and beyond, while also giving parents the opportunity to be involved in the process. There are numerous resources available including video talks, subject and FAQ documents, and a facility to ask an expert, should you have further questions. We encourage you to view these resources at your own convenience.

<u>Sport</u>

In conjunction with AUT Millennium, our Sports Department continues to post workout videos on the <u>Rangitoto Sport Instagram Page</u> to help our community keep active. We encourage all our students to build daily exercise into their routines.

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Zach Riley, on his award of a full scholarship for basketball to the prestigious NCAA Division 1 Fordham University, in New York. This comes off the back of Zach being named NBL Youth Player of the Year following his exceptional performances for the Auckland Huskies.

Online Assemblies

We will begin this week with a Monday full school assembly video. This will be posted via Google Drive to all students, and they will receive notification of this on Monday morning. Monday's assembly will be messaging from myself and student leaders. There will be follow up assemblies posted via the drive on Wednesday to each of the year levels from their respective deans and deputy principal. Please encourage your son and/or daughter to watch the assembly videos.

Support

We wish to remind you that wellbeing support is readily available to students through the Guidance department and through year level deans. Please do not hesitate to book a Guidance appointment through the online booking system on Ranginet or contact the dean for support. Furthermore, our Careers department continues to operate an online booking system through Ranginet during this time. Linewize would like to offer support to our school community through their <u>Healthier Home Learning</u> webinar series.

Thursday 2 September @ 7 pm: Parents & Whānau- Safety & Sanity Learn strategies to support young people learning online from home, and tips for keeping harmony in a busy household during lockdown.

Tuesday 7 September @ 7 pm: Students, Parents and Whānau: Assessments & Attention Learn ways to keep focused and safe while studying for exams during home learning.

Thursday 9 September @ 7 pm: Parents and Whānau: Health & Hauora Learn about the wellbeing challenges for young people while learning at home and how to help address those challenges.

To find out more information about these sessions or to register, head to <u>www.linewize.io/homelearningNZ</u>

Rangitoto College Uniform Shop

Our onsite opening is delayed while Auckland is in Level 4 and 3. Online sales are still available at <u>Janbells</u>.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of each other and Rangitoto College.

Best wishes

Patrick Gale PRINCIPAL