



7th March 2022

Rangitoto College Covid-19 Update & Newsletter

Covid 19 Update:

The school continues to be a safe environment for our students and staff. Last week, we averaged 21 positive student cases a day. Information from parents demonstrated that the majority of these cases are coming from households where there is already a Covid positive person. Other small clusters have emerged from group activities that students are involved in outside of school time. We continue to expect students to wear masks when possible in order for our transmission rates to be as low as possible. If you have any concerns, we encourage you to speak to your child about the importance of wearing masks other than when eating and drinking. Mask use on public transport is an area where students need to take responsibility for their own health and safety.

We remind you of the importance of the school being notified by parents/caregivers of positive Covid-19 cases as well as those who are self-isolating due to being Household Contacts. Please refer to the flowchart [here](#) and complete the [Google Form](#) for all positive cases.

Avoiding Exposure:

Parents, caregivers, and students should continue to monitor very closely for Covid-19 symptoms at all times, please take a cautious approach with having students attend school who may be feeling unwell. In particular, if your child has any Covid-19 symptom they must stay at home and seek medical advice.

Ukraine Mufti Day Fundraiser

The current military operation in Ukraine poses an immediate and growing threat to the lives and well-being of the country's 7.5 million children. Evacuations are ongoing in Luhansk, Oblast and have started in Donetsk. As such, the needs are wide, ranging from water, nutrition, health services and every other product necessary for survival. On Thursday 17th March, Rangitoto College will be holding a fundraising mufti day. The proceeds will be given to organisations providing humanitarian relief. Everyone in the Rangitoto Community is encouraged to donate generously.

2022 Student Representative on the Rangitoto College School Board

The elections for the Student Representative on the Rangitoto College School Board will be held on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th March. 17 students ranging from Y10 to Y13 are standing for election and every student in the school will be eligible to vote. We wish all the candidates well and applaud them for stepping forward to represent their fellow students.

Academic Awards 2021

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions last year, we were unable to hold our End of Year Prizegiving Ceremonies for Years 9 - 12. We had hoped that we would be able to have parents attend these earlier this term. The ongoing restrictions prevent that. Therefore, we have decided to issue all certificates, book tokens and medals to students this week and this will be done during our extended tutor group period on Friday. Congratulations to all our 2021 prizewinners!

Sport:

Despite the somewhat challenging environment, Sport at Rangitoto College has been extremely active which is the norm for term one. Core summer sports are up and running with extremely strong starts by our premier boys and girls Volleyball and Water Polo teams in their respective seasons. The girls Volleyball team is

currently unbeaten. Winter Sports trials, musters and pre-season activities are also taking place with strong numbers across all of our codes, and we are hopeful for a full and enjoyable season for all winter sport athletes in 2022. Notable initiatives include a comprehensive pre-season senior netball development programme as well as a series of 'all ages' rugby development sessions as a result of a newly formed rugby committee. A number of athletes have achieved success in their respective sports including Rangitoto Beach Volley players, Kaia Buckley and Kiana Stevenson on the National beach volleyball circuit, National sailing titles to Caleb Armit and Joe Leith, and Auckland titles to Alex Hebbard, Lucy Leith and Seb Menzies. A number of strong performances were also had in the Auckland aquathlon champs including 1st place to Suya Haering in the Senior Girls.

Special mention must go out to all members of the sport community who continue to drive and support Rangitoto College sport with selfless commitment and relentless enthusiasm. As many coaches and managers are forced into isolation, just as many have stepped up to fill their shoes to ensure the impact on our students is as minimal as possible.

Lastly, the Sport Department is delighted to welcome new staff members Natasha Mouat (Football, Water Polo and Athletics) and Brownz Tagaloa (Cricket, Basketball and Hockey) to the team and are excited for their imminent contribution to our school.

Performing Arts:

The first few weeks of Term 1 have been somewhat challenging for many areas of Performing Arts, with Red Light restrictions meaning that certain aspects of our craft must be conducted outdoors. Amidst the masks and hand-sanitiser, we have managed to get through sign-ups and auditions for most of the co-curricular Music, Dance and Drama groups, with the aid of sneeze screens, pegs, sunblock, and our newly acquired gazebos.



While several of these groups are not able to commence full rehearsals at this stage, we are fortunate to be able to at least make a start. The Music Tuition Programme is now in its third week, with over 420 enrolments for instrumental, vocal, music technology and music theory lessons. A special shout out to our wind, brass and vocal tutors who are currently housed in gazebos to deliver their tuition, battling the unpredictable Auckland weather, and managing to keep a positive outlook on things.

Please contact your child's Dean if any issues arise in the next few weeks.

Kind regards



Patrick Gale
PRINCIPAL