



28 June 2022

Rangitoto College Newsletter

Covid 19 Update:

As the end of the term draws near it has been pleasing to see a further reduction in student positive Covid 19 cases within the school. We continue to support those students who are self-isolating at home by having all of the resources that students require uploaded into the Google Classroom. A reminder that students who are unwell with Covid, or any other illness, are not expected to engage with the Google Classroom resources, as they need to focus on getting well, to ensure they can return to school in a timely manner.

All students who are well, should of course be in school. Regular attendance at school is important for positive educational outcomes. We would ask parents to support their child's regular attendance by monitoring the live reporting of attendance on the PCSchool Parent Portal. If you have concerns regarding your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's dean to discuss.

Staffing - Rostering Students Home:

Unfortunately, we have seen a marked increase this week with staff who are unable to attend work due to either being unwell with winter illness or self-isolating under Covid-19 restrictions. As of today, we have 30 staff unable to teach which has left some classes without a teacher in front of them. This has stretched our staffing resources to a point where a decision has been made to roster students home beginning from Thursday this week. The below year levels will be rostered home this week allowing the staff who would usually be teaching these year levels to cover the classes of staff who are not at work.

Thursday 30 June = Year 11 rostered home

Friday 1 July = Year 12 rostered home

Those students who are rostered home will be supported with work through Google Classroom. We will communicate with you by email on Friday our intentions for next week and whether we will need to continue with rostering or not.

Entrance Exams:

The College's Entrance Exams will take place from Wednesday 14th of September until Friday the 23rd of September. These exams serve as an opportunity for all students who are enrolled in the final NCEA external examinations (November 7th to December 2nd), to gain valuable feedback, in order to be well-prepared for these external exams. The entrance exams also allow Year 11 and 12 students to demonstrate that they have the required level of knowledge to be able to transition into the subjects they select for 2023. This year, the entrance exams take on even further importance as they will be the primary source of evidence that the College would need to provide to NZQA, should there be a derived and/or Unexplained Event Grade process, similar to the one that took place in 2021. This means that student attendance and engagement in Term 3 as well as during the Entrance Exam period, is vital to ensuring successful outcomes for our ākongā.

Course/Subject Selection 2023:

This year, a stronger emphasis will be placed on using an evidence-based approach from work that students have produced in their NCEA internal assessment and school entrance exams. This will enable the college to correctly place each student in the best individual course for them in 2023. With this in mind, it is essential that

students look to produce their best work in each of their NCEA related assessments (Internals, Entrance Exams and Final NCEA exams).

For many courses, the measure of 'success' to pass a course sits at gaining 14 or more credits. For extension courses, the quality of these credits is considered, i.e., 10 credits out of 14 at an Excellence level. This may vary across courses, but the key message here is that attendance, engagement, and application in all subjects, will ensure that students position themselves well for entry into courses at higher levels. In order to support students in this endeavour, we strongly encourage all students to speak with their teacher about what Subject Clinics are on offer as well as how best to prepare for the Term 3 entrance exams.

Reports:

Rangitoto College Reports are live, meaning they are updated as soon as assessment information is entered into our school system. Parents and students can check these at any time via the parent portal to get an update of student progress and achievement. Junior and Senior reports will be updated with new Term 2 dispositions by the end of this term and Deans may also comment on a selection of students. Senior students will receive a teacher comment by the end of Week 1, Term 3.

Matariki

Last week we celebrated the inaugural national holiday of Matariki. We held a wānanga where students were immersed in activities to learn about Matariki in Te Ao Māori and the tikanga around the traditional hāutapu ceremony. The students were also involved in team challenges and shared a meal together. It was great to see so many students celebrating and learning about Matariki.

School Shop Hours

A reminder of our School Shop hours for purchasing uniform items.

Term-time hours:

Monday	8am – 2:15pm
Tuesday	8am – 11:30am
Thursday	1:30pm – 5:30pm
Friday	8am – 2:15pm

The school uniform ordering email will be monitored and responded to during the term break
uniforms@rangitoto.school.nz

Further details and pricing is available at <https://www.rangitoto.school.nz/uniforms/>

Finally, with one week remaining of the term next week, I take this final opportunity for the term to thank parents, caregivers and students for their vigilance and understanding throughout Term 2, in particular with the Health & Safety processes in place at school.

Our students are learning to navigate an environment which is different in some instances to what they are historically used to in schools. We have appreciated their positive approach to a variety of situations and would encourage all students to enjoy a much-deserved holiday with family and friends after the final bell at 3:20pm on Friday 8 July.

Kind regards

Peter Morton
ACTING PRINCIPAL