



26th May 2023

## Rangitoto College Week 5, Term 2 Newsletter 2023

### Principal Appointment

We are delighted with the announcement of our Deputy Principal, Kirsty Dowding, to the position of Principal at Hobsonville Point Secondary School. A very passionate educator and leader, Kirsty will be a significant asset to her local community of Hobsonville. She has made a hugely positive impact in her time at Rangitoto College and leaves us with our very best wishes for her new position in Term 3.

At the end of Term 2, I will be going on a study tour and sabbatical to Europe. In my absence during Term 3, Rangitoto College will be led by Fay Meiklejohn, who will step in as Acting Principal. Fay currently leads teaching and learning as Associate Principal at the College and has leadership experience in a wide range of roles, along with an excellent understanding of Rangitoto College and our community.

### NCEA Level 1 2024

For the past few years, the curriculum leaders at Rangitoto College have been working to create a deliberate sequence of knowledge, from the junior school into Year 11 and beyond. This intentional sequencing ensures students learn and understand essential knowledge across all curriculum areas in a logical and considered way. As you may be aware the Ministry of Education has been revising the current NCEA curriculum and was due to release the 'new' NCEA in 2024. Recently the government changed the timeline for the new curriculum implementation for years 11, 12 and 13 and this has resulted in a mis-alignment of knowledge in some curriculum areas. The table below indicates the new implementation timeline.

To ensure our students have the most logical and coherent learning programme possible we are initiating the Rangitoto Certificate (details to be confirmed). In 2024, Year 11 students will complete a course of study that could involve some of the old standards and some of the new standards and upon completion, they will achieve the new Rangitoto Certificate. Assessing the new Level 1 standards and then reverting to the old Level 2 standards is not educationally best practice. This will mean that students in Year 11 2024, will not gain Level 1 NCEA, however, we are confident in our learning programmes and believe that they will set our students up for success and better prepare them for NCEA Level 2 or IB (International Baccalaureate).

It is the school's intention to run NCEA level 1 in 2025.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Year 11	Old NCEA	Rangitoto Certificate	New NCEA	New NCEA	New NCEA
Year 12	Old NCEA	Old NCEA	Old NCEA	New NCEA	New NCEA
Year 13	Old NCEA	Old NCEA	Old NCEA	Old NCEA	New NCEA

The school will send detailed information to families of current year 9 and 10 students within the next 2 weeks, outlining the details and explaining the implications for students. An information evening will also be held for all students/families; details will be sent out in subsequent newsletters.

### **Co-Curricular Opportunities**

Over the last few weeks, we have been raising student awareness around the benefits of co-curricular activities. There is a vast array of opportunities in sport, performing arts, clubs and activities and service groups for students to participate in. We have been encouraging involvement and raising awareness of what is available and how to join in. The Student Profile is a cumulative summary of a student's involvement in the life of the College and is a document that employers and universities place great value on when a student leaves school. You can view your child's current profile in your PCSchool parent portal (Student Information > Reports > Student Profile).

### **NCEA Literacy and Numeracy Assessment - Year 10**

A reminder to parents of students in Year 10, that all Year 10 students will be sitting the new NCEA Literacy and Numeracy standards across two assessment time-periods in 2023. Session one in term two (Week 8) and session two in Term four (Week 8). In term two, we will assess seven Year 10 classes across the College (CA, MO, LI, MG, HF, 10MAT(MKJ), 10ENL(DAV)), with the remainder of students in Year 10, as well as any who are unsuccessful in session one, then being assessed in the Term four assessment window. The first round of three assessments (Literacy Reading, Writing and Numeracy) will take place across 3 days, Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th and Friday 16th June. These assessments are corequisites to students gaining the NCEA qualification. Students will need a fully charged laptop and charger (not a tablet or ipad) for each day as well as their NZQA Login details (which they are receiving in Week 6). The selected classes will begin at 9am and each one will have a 2-hour time slot per assessment, although the expected completion time recommended by NZQA is one hour. Students will return to normal timetabled classes as they finish.

- Year 10 students can test the 'readiness' of their device for online testing by going to: [Check my device](#)
- As well as preparing themselves for what online testing looks like by visiting: [Digital exam preparation for students](#)

Below are some answers to the most common FAQs:

- Students will have up to two opportunities each year (in Year 10, 11, 12 and 13) to pass the Literacy and Numeracy assessments if they are unsuccessful initially.
- Once a student passes them, they do not sit the tests again.
- Literacy and Numeracy is currently assessed as part of existing standards whereby students require 10 numeracy and 10 literacy credits. This still applies to our current Year 11 cohort in 2023 but will not apply in 2024 to the current Year 10 cohort.
- Special assessment conditions will be available for students who are identified as needing this support.
- A student's result will show in their NZQA record of learning and we will develop our school reports for 2024 to reflect whether or not a student has met the corequisite requirements.
- The content of the assessments tests the knowledge that students have picked up during their schooling to date i.e. there are no specific topics taught that lead directly into each assessment.

### **Rangitoto College PTA: Treasurer position**

Following the decision of long-serving PTA Treasurer, Lynda Twidle to step down, the PTA is urgently in search of a treasurer to sit on the Executive. The honorary Treasurer role involves keeping proper accounting records of financial transactions (mainly in relation to the PTA's secondhand uniform shop), preparing annual financial statements and financial reports at each quarterly committee meeting and the AGM. The PTA have been excellent supporters of the College through their various fund raising activities and provision of second hand uniforms to our community. Any parent of the current Rangitoto College students who is interested in supporting the school in this role please contact the PTA via: [pta.rangitotocollege@gmail.com](mailto:pta.rangitotocollege@gmail.com). Many thanks to Lynda for her significant contribution to the PTA and Rangitoto College.

### **Sports Fees**

Thank you to those parents and guardians who have paid winter sports fees. With the season now underway we ask that overdue fees are paid immediately. Financially the college carries a significant liability when fees are outstanding and also bears additional administrative burden in seeking collection. In case of genuine financial hardship, an application for support should be made to the Director of Sport:

[Trevor.Meiklejohn@rangitoto.school.nz](mailto:Trevor.Meiklejohn@rangitoto.school.nz)

### **Extreme Weather Events**

With a number of significant weather events in the past two weeks, it is timely to remind parents that all students should remain in school unless an emergency situation causes the school to close. This will be announced to parents via the website, social media and email. We ask that parents do not pick up students early in these situations unless approval has been granted by the Dean of your child.

### **PC School App**

The developer of the PCSchool App has currently disabled the Student Timetable information and the Student Documents section. We have yet to be advised of when this functionality will be restored in the App. The PCSchool parent portal is fully operational and can be accessed on any digital device including a smartphone.

### **Graham Collins Drive Access**

Ongoing frustration from residents on Graham Collins Drive, and concerns about emergency service access to the Knightsbridge retirement village, has prompted residents to communicate with police and local authorities about the ticketing of vehicles that are illegally stopped on the street. We ask once again for parents to arrange to pick up their children from Windsor Park or risk sanctions from the local authorities if their vehicle is blocking access on Graham Collins Drive.

### **Scooters & Bicycles**

In the interests of student safety we have a number of rules that apply to those who bring a bicycle or scooter to school. Students must wear an appropriate helmet at all times and riding is not permitted anywhere within the school grounds during the school day. On arrival at the college, students are required to walk their bicycle or scooter from the entrance to the storage area adjacent to the Rangitoto Centre. Students must also walk their bicycle or scooter when using the East Coast Road pedestrian crossings.

Kind regards



Patrick Gale  
**Principal**