



10th March 2023

Rangitoto College Week 6, Term 1 Newsletter 2023

Road to Resilience - Darren Pereira Parent Presentation

Rangitoto College is excited to welcome back to the College one of Oceania's foremost educational speakers and the founding director of Success Integrated. On Wednesday March 29th, Darren will present to two separate year groups during the school day before offering a parent presentation at 6:30pm in the staffroom at school.

Last year we had a capacity crowd attend this highly successful and informative parent presentation and have felt compelled to bring Darren back to support our community.

This will be a ticketed event limited to Year 9 & 10 parents. There will not be a cost to attend but we need to ensure we do not breach capacity of 200 in the staffroom.

We would encourage Year 9 & 10 parents to attend the evening session where Darren will cover a variety of topics which will support parenting a teenager. We have asked him to deliver a toolkit for parents to support their teenager. This will include:

- developing resilience in your child, becoming adaptive & dealing with their current challenges
- using evidence-based, positive psychology interventions & cognitive behavioural techniques to sustainably manage depression & deal with negative thinking
- rectifying poor sleep habits exacerbating mental health issues
- dealing with disappointment, setbacks & failure

Further communication regarding this event will be sent out to Year 9 & 10 parents next week with the relevant ticketing details.

School Donations

On behalf of the Rangitoto College School Board, Students and Staff, I would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for all parent donations to Rangitoto College in the past year.

These donations contribute in a very significant way to the provision of an education for our students that rises above the norm, offering opportunities for school success and academic outcomes that are the envy of many schools in New Zealand. Donations in the past year have enabled us to employ 15 teachers above government funding, provide an extensive co-curricular programme of sport, performing arts, clubs and activities, and to increase the range of NCEA and IB subjects alongside the successful NZQA scholarship programme that returns significant monetary awards directly to students for their tertiary education. In addition, we have been able to continue to fund our Health Centre and Guidance & Careers centre. The board continues to develop plans to enhance the facilities and school environment with some exciting projects in the pipeline for 2023 and beyond. We believe our use of donation funds brings great benefit to all our students, enabling them to achieve exceptional outcomes during their time at Rangitoto.

Please be aware that you can claim 33.33 cents for every dollar you donated to Rangitoto College. For the standard 2023 student donation, this equates to a return to you of \$133. In order to assist you to do this, the school donation receipt for paid donations to the end of the tax year will be sent out via email in early April and placed on our PCSchool Parent Portal for downloading and submission to the IRD. This submission is a straightforward process and can be completed here.

My thanks again, your donations continue to make a huge difference to the lives of the students in our Rangitoto Community.

Attendance

Good school attendance is a crucial component for successful outcomes. The government launched an attendance and engagement strategy in July 2022 as a response to the concerning attendance rates across all NZ schools. We all have a collective responsibility to support young people in getting to school.

We ask parents to monitor your child's attendance on a regular basis via the PCSchool Parent Portal or PCSchool App. Should you have a query regarding your child's attendance please contact their year level Dean.

Parent's/Guardian's should ensure absence from school is accounted for in a timely manner. Rangitoto College's preference is for parents/guardians to use the PCSchool Parent Portal or PCSchool App to explain student absences. When using the PCSchool Parent Portal or PCSchool App, it is essential for you to keep login information private. Please do not share the login details with your child as this may compromise the integrity of the absence system.

Dental Planet - Introductory Letter

Dental Planet will have mobile units on site in the last week of this term and during the holiday break to provide free dental services to our students. If your child is not currently receiving regular dental checkups and treatment we would encourage you to seriously consider this opportunity. You will find further information and an enrolment link in the attachment.

School and Public Buses

The school shares the frustrations being felt by parents and students over the wide range of bus problems that we have been experiencing. We have met with Auckland Transport to provide them with specific concerns we have and are urging them to increase capacity and timeliness across their commercial offering to our community. Our Local MPs, Erica Stanford and Simon Watts, along with National Transport Spokesperson, Simeon Brown, are hosting a public meeting on March 27th, between 6.00 and 7.00pm, at Mairangi Bay Bowling Club, situated at 11-13 Ramsgate Terrace, to raise the issues with our providers. We encourage families negatively affected by the current situation to attend.

Year 10 NCEA Pilot Programme - Literacy and Numeracy Standards

From 2024 NZQA, under the new NCEA Curriculum Refresh, will be introducing Literacy (reading and writing) and Numeracy online common assessment tasks. These standards will become a mandatory corequisite to the NCEA qualification in 2024. 2023 will be a transitional year, where some schools, including us, are piloting these standards. Our aim is for the majority of Year 10 students to pass the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite in Year 10 in order to 'free up' curriculum time for individual subject success in Year 11.

We have just recently received notification of the timings of these assessments from NZQA, although we are still awaiting some of the finer details required in order for us to plan for such a large scale testing event at the College. We can confirm that students in Year 10 will be sitting the 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 six Year 10 classes across the College, with the remainder of students in Year 10 then being assessed in the Term four assessment window.

Below are some answers to the most common FAQ's:

- 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.
- All students need to pass these tests to gain NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3.

- 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.
- NZQA is yet to confirm what special assessment conditions will be available for students.
- A student's result will show on their school report and in their NZQA record of learning.
- Further information including examples of the assessments can be found [here](#).

Traffic Congestion and Student Pickups - Graham Collins Drive

We have seen a marked increase in the number of parents and caregivers driving down Graham Collins Drive to pick up their child at the end of the school day. This is leading to significant congestion for all concerned and causing accessibility issues for local residents who are unable to access or leave their property due to people stopping their vehicles across driveways. Many of the students being picked up are able to walk home or catch public transport. We ask the parents concerned to make alternative transport arrangements where possible. We aim to encourage increased independence in our students, taking responsibility for travelling to and from school is part of this process and ask for parental support and due consideration and respect for our neighbours.

Kind regards



Patrick Gale
PRINCIPAL