

Friday 9 August 2024

Rangitoto College Term 3 Newsletter 2024

| Important Community Dates | Date |
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| Study Skills Evening | Tuesday 13 August |
| Pasifika Whanau Evening | Wednesday 14 August |
| International Baccalaureate (IB) Information Evening | Wednesday 14 August |
| Dance Showcase: Bruce Mason Centre 7pm | Thursday 15 August |
| Teacher Only Day: School Closed | Friday 16 August |
| Y10 & Y11 Pathways Evening: Auditorium 4pm | Tuesday 27 August |
| Y13 Ball: Ellerslie Event Centre | Friday 30 August |
| Sports Tournament Week | Monday 2 September - Friday 6 September |
| Rangi Day: School Closed | Friday 6 September |
| Entrance Exams Year 12-13 | Thursday 12 September - Friday 20 September |

Principal Update

This time of year marks an important stage for our senior students as the next academic year comes into view. Upcoming Pathway and IB information evenings enable students and their parents to make informed choices about academic options for 2025. Our Year 13 students should be finalising their options for next year, with university applications beginning to occur and scholarships now open. With the important Entrance Exams due this time next month, students should also be beginning their preparation. Early preparation decreases student stress levels and giving their best effort to these exams allows teachers to support students effectively with targeted help to fill any knowledge gaps prior to external exams. Our Study Skills evening next Tuesday offers an opportunity for all students to improve their revision skills and is particularly relevant to our students in their first year at Rangitoto.

PCSchool Parent Portal and App

At the beginning of 2025 the school will move to solely using the PCSchool Parent Portal through PCSchool and no longer have the PCSchool App in operation.

The PCSchool App is no longer supported and has poor functionality in comparison to the PCSchool Parent Portal hence the reason to remove it from January 1 2025.

We would encourage parents who have been using the App for absence notifications to transition to using the Parent Portal before the start of next year. The Parent Portal can be accessed using a mobile phone or appropriate device and the process for absence notification is the same as it appears in the PCSchool App. Indicating the reason in writing for absence is important to ensure we can code this against MOE attendance codes.

Some of the other features in the PCSchool Parent Portal (e.g. attendance records and live reporting) are designed to be viewed on a larger device.

Please refer to this [link](#) for images on the use of the PCSchool Parent Portal for absence notification for those who are unfamiliar with this function.

Measles protection

The best protection against measles is two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine – free for all young people aged 18 and under in New Zealand and all adults over the age of 18 who are eligible for free New Zealand healthcare.

The first symptoms of measles are fever, cough, runny nose and sore red eyes, followed by a red or dark pink rash

typically starting on the face or behind the ears three days after the first symptoms before moving down the body. If you observe these symptoms, please contact your healthcare provider or Healthline on 0800 611 116 immediately.

NCEA Co-requisite literacy and numeracy testing Year 10-13

All Year 10 and selected Year 11-13 students will again be involved in the NCEA Literacy & Numeracy common assessment activity across September 19th-20th (Week 9 Term 3). For students who sat this in May, you can view your results through your [learner login](#) on the NZQA website.

The Literacy & Numeracy CAA (common assessment activity) will test the reading, writing and numeracy knowledge that your child should have acquired between year 7-10 of their schooling. Literacy and numeracy must be gained in order to gain the Year 11 Rangitoto Diploma, as well as any level of the NCEA. The three assessments (reading, writing and numeracy) will take place online, at school, so your child will need an [approved device](#) to successfully complete it. Additionally, a calculator (they can not use the calculator on their device) and ruler will be required for the Numeracy CAA.

Year 10 students will need to set up an NZQA Login prior to the testing day. The link below allows you to do this now. There will also be an opportunity for students to do this in their tutor class in the coming weeks. Slide 10 onwards contains a range of supporting information which will help students prepare for the testing day. Please support your child by assisting them to work through the link so that they feel ready for the testing.

[Year 10 Digital Exam Preparation](#)

Students who are not successful in the testing have further opportunities in Years 11-13.

Closer to the testing day, each student will be able to view their venue/time for each test under 'Reports - Student Exam Timetable Report' in their student information section of PC School.

Scholarship Examination and Portfolio Entry 2024

We are in the process of officially enrolling students in the 2024 NZQA Scholarship Examinations. This term we have a range of guest speakers coming in to work with groups of students and our subject specific workshops are continuing to attract strong numbers of students before school, at lunchtimes and after school. A number of subjects are running weekend and holiday sessions also. Now is the perfect time for students to be working through [past Scholarship Exam papers](#) and working hard to gain a deep understanding of what it takes to get a successful Scholarship pass at both the scholarship and outstanding scholarship level. Students entering for Scholarship exams should check their entries are correct over the next week or two by checking their entries on PC School. Students will also have Scholarship exams as part of their entrance exams in September.

Teacher Only Day

Friday 16th is a teacher only day for Rangitoto College. As a kura we are excited about the day that is going to have Mātauranga Māori as the central learning theme. We will continue to learn the stories of Te Kawerau a Maki, one of the iwi that we have entered into partnership with, learning about Mātauranga Māori in our local community: Long Bay, Te Oneroa ō Kahu, Te Rahopara o Peretu Pā: a significant pa site at Kennedy Park and Pupuke Moana, Lake Pupuke. Visiting these sites and linking this visit to Te Kawerau a Maki stories will encourage staff to link the curriculum to our local environment through a Mātauranga Māori lens. As part of our professional learning, every staff member will be involved in a powhiri at the Devonport Naval Base, being welcomed onto Te Tāua Moana Ō Aotearoa Marae. This is a significant moment in our bi-cultural journey as a staff and a wonderful moment to experience tikanga and kawa as a kura.

IB Information Evening

The International Baccalaureate Diploma is an alternate programme to NCEA for students in Years 12 and 13. On Wednesday 14th August from 6:30 - 8:30pm in the school auditorium, staff will be presenting information on the programme to allow students and parents to make an informed decision on which academic pathway will best suit their academic journey. There will be general information from the IB coordinator as to the make-up of the IB programme as well as an opportunity for whānau to talk to subject specific experts across the six curriculum areas: Studies in Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals and Societies, Science, Mathematics and the Arts. This is an excellent opportunity for current Year 11 students and their parents to learn more about the IB programme, and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

TEMPORARY CHANGE TO 205 BUS ROUTE

We have just been advised that in Week 4 (Monday 12/08 to Friday 16/08) the 205 bus route will be changed to accommodate NZTA road works. The affected roading is State Highway 16 between Station Road and Tapu Road. The image below and information has been provided to us to explain the re-routing:



| Morning: coming from Waimauku on SH16 | Afternoon: heading into Huapai on SH16 |
|---|--|
| Right into Trigg Rd. Left into Motu Rd. Left into Tawa Rd – Ahead on Access Rd. Left into SH16 Right into Matua Rd Left into Oraha Rd Left into SH16 – pick up from bus stop outside dairy (includes Tapu Rd students) Continue as normal. | Drop off students at bus stop opposite dairy (includes Tapu Rd students) Right into Oraha Rd Right into Matua Rd Left into SH16 Right into Access Rd – Ahead on Tawa Rd. Right into Motu Rd Right into Trigg Rd Left into SH16 Continue as normal. |

Any queries about the changes need to be directed to Ritchies Transport, (09) 833 6053

YR 10 & 11 STUDENTS PATHWAYS EVENING



Tuesday 27th October
4.30pm - 7.30pm

**Making informed
decisions about your
subject choices for 2025
and beyond**



See your email for an
invitation

Pathways Evening: TUESDAY 27 AUGUST 2024; 4.30pm – 7.30pm, AUDITORIUM

YEAR 10 & 11 STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

We want to invite you to attend our Pathways Evening. The purpose of the Expo-style evening is to help Year 10 & 11 students, along with their parents/caregivers, make **informed decisions about subject choices for 2025 and beyond**.

Featuring:

- Subject teachers from all departments are available to answer your questions.
- Deans, Learning Support, Careers, and IB staff are available to help with your enquiries.
- Presentations about the Year 11 Rangitoto Diploma (for parents/caregivers of current Year 10 students only).

Please [click here](#) to register.

Patrick Gale
Principal