

Rangitoto College - Community Newsletter

Important Community Information	Date
Japan Week	25 - 29 May
Brett Harvey Parent Presentation: Keeping Our Young People Safe Online	27 May, 7.00pm
Choirs at Knightsbridge Village	28 May, 3.45pm
SGCNZ Shakespeare Festival – Nationals	30 - 31 May
King's Birthday, School Closed	1 June
NZCT Chamber Music Competition – District Rounds	2 June
Samoa Language Week	2 - 5 June
Chinese Night	5 June, 6pm

Principal's Update

On the 29th May I have been invited to judge at the student-led Rangitoto's Got Talent during lunchtime, and it is intimidating. I have the privilege of being entertained with rock, jazz, choral, classical, dance and drama shows across the term both at Rangitoto College and in the community, sharing the experience with the residents at Knightsbridge Village for example. I want to thank staff, parents and the community for the high-quality tuition and support you provide for our students in the Performing Arts. The calibre of student performances here is awe-inspiring and I encourage you to get to a show whenever possible - you will be very well entertained. I do not know how I am going to distinguish the brilliance at Rangitoto's Got Talent - I am so glad to be able to rely on the discernment of two arts alumni to help judge the performances!

Curriculum Corner: NCEA Level 2 and 3 Replacement Confirmed by the Government This Week

The Minister of Education has confirmed the details for the upcoming overhaul of senior secondary qualifications. NCEA Levels 2 and 3 will be replaced by the New Zealand Certificate of Education (NZCE) at Year 12 and the New Zealand Advanced Certificate of Education (NZACE) at Year 13. The new system is designed to address the variability of educational achievement across the country through assessing students in subjects, not standards, and with compulsory Mathematics, English and Science in Year 11. Students will be required to take at least five subjects a year, and will be assessed through a balance of internal assessments with mandatory external examinations for every subject, with a six-point grading scale (A+ to E).

Today's Year 9 students will be the first cohort to progress through these changes with Year 12 students in 2029 sitting NZCE. We are well-positioned to implement these changes and will keep our whānau updated as more transition timelines are detailed by the Ministry. In the meantime, [here](#) is the latest information in full from the Ministry of Education.

Parent Support Series: Keeping Our Young People Safe Online

As part of our commitment to support the Rangitoto College parent community, we are delighted to introduce our third and final parent presentation for 2026. The digital world is changing fast, and every family faces different questions and challenges. That's why we've invited Dr Sam Marsh from B416 and Brett Harvey from Tāima Kōrero to share their expertise and practical advice in a panel discussion hosted by Matilda Green in supporting your child to be safe online.

Date: Wednesday, 27 May

Time: 7pm

Location: Rangitoto College Auditorium

Tickets are free for this event and can be secured through [this link](#). Ticketing allows us to manage numbers within the auditorium and are limited to our capacity.

Chinese Night

This year marks the 11th anniversary of Chinese Night, a landmark tradition that has grown into a cultural highlight each year. Over the past decade, flagship groups like Lion Dance and Diabolo have doubled and tripled in popularity, transitioning from open-enrolment clubs to highly competitive, audition-only ensembles. Pulling off a production of this scale requires immense dedication and, this year, a team of 140 student performers, volunteers, and leaders spearhead the event. Each performance group has poured between 25 and 40 hours of preparation into weekly rehearsals, holiday sessions, and technical runs starting back in Term 1.

At its core, Chinese Night is a proud celebration of traditional and modern culture entirely led by our Chinese students. While deeply rooted in Chinese heritage, the event warmly welcomes a broad spectrum of diverse ethnicities both on stage and in the audience. Thank you to all the staff, students and wider community who have supported Chinese Night over the last 11 years and made it the vibrant community highlight it is today.

There are still some tickets available via [this link](#). This event always sells out, so get in quick.



Sport

Swimming

We had a team of 38 swimmers who represented the school and delivered an outstanding performance at the NH Zone Swimming Day, dominating the pool to bring home a phenomenal haul of 36 medals. With 19 Gold, 10 Silver and 7 Bronze medals won it was a big day in the pool for our swimmers, many of whom had just competed at the NZ Open Swimming Championships the week prior.

While every swimmer contributed to this massive success, special mention goes to our individual gold medal winners: Amy Tian, Grayson Coulter, Amber Lin, Henry Wang, Elwin Bao, and Isabella Wang. The team now set their sights on the Auckland Champ of Champs later this term, followed by the NZSS Championships in Term 3.



We would also like to acknowledge two students who have been selected to represent New Zealand this year. Congratulations goes to Sean Burke who competed at the Oceania Swimming Championships in Fiji, and Grayson Coulter who will compete at the Junior Pan Pacific Championships in Canada later this year.

School Cross Country

We were delighted to see so many enthusiastic students take part and showcase their running ability. This was a great opportunity for the runners to challenge themselves, demonstrate resilience, and support one another with many pushing beyond their comfort zones to achieve personal goals. Many congratulations to all runners who have qualified for the Auckland Cross Country Championships which is taking place next Tuesday 26th May at Lloyd Elsmore park in Pakuranga. Thank you to the student helpers and staff members involved to make this day run smoothly, we appreciate your time and effort.

The winter sport season is well underway for all codes, with action from Monday afternoon through to Saturday. Each week, the links to draws are available via our Sports website and the Sports Weekly, which is linked here: [Sports Weekly](#)

Korean Night 2026 Tickets

The form for ordering Korean Night 2026 tickets will open at 6pm on Friday 22nd May. The form will close at 3:30pm on Tuesday 26th May. Please use this [link](#).

2nd Hand Uniform Shop - Term 2 Opening Hours

- 1.30pm – 2.30pm
- Friday lunchtimes - term-time only
- Sunday 7 June

For more information email: uniformshop.rangitotocollege@gmail.com

Kind regards,

Greg Thornton
Principal