

Rangitoto College - Community Newsletter

Important Community Information	Date
Mental Health Week	10 - 14 August
KBB Music Festival	10 - 15 August
IB Information Evening	12 August
Tongan Language Week	17 - 21 August
Transition Meetings	18 & 19 August
Table Tennis Team Champs	20 August
Sports Photos	21 August
St Mary By The Sea Non-Uniform Day	21 August
Shakespeare Company - The Winter's Tale	21 - 22 August

Principal's Update

Kia ora koutou, and thanks to everyone who has asked after my shoulder after Friday's efforts. With more than 3800 high fives it was tougher than I thought it would be, but we did it. We smashed the previous record of 2514, although this has yet to be made official. Here is the [article](#) on Seven Sharp that aired on Wednesday night. It is an excellent story that captures the positive culture at Rangitoto College and the spirit of the event. My thanks again to the students who did an incredible job managing the logistics to bring students, staff and the community together for the event.

IB Review Follow Up

In the last newsletter I mentioned that we worked with IB on our 5-year review. The response from the review team was fantastic and a ringing endorsement of the learning environment at Rangitoto College. They were particularly interested in the Diploma Programme, which we offer to our Year 12 and 13 students, and the level of integration there is for this programme and the rest of the school. They were particularly impressed at the high-quality dual-pathway learning options we provide for our community, the calibre of our staff, the culture of the school, and the incredible students that graduate from Rangitoto College in Year 13. The review team mentioned the notable improvements made since the last review, and I want to thank the staff involved in IB, in particular Fay Meiklejohn and Catherine Brandt, for the ongoing improvements that we have made in delivering this programme.

ERO

The ERO review has been confirmed and is now public on their [website](#). It is a great review and I encourage you to have a read when you get a chance.

Supporters' Kit Follow Up

We did the draw for this raffle at lunchtime today and will contact the winners directly. I will provide a summary of this in the next newsletter, but for now I want to draw attention to the applications for funding. The purpose of the raffle is to highlight the importance of getting involved in the opportunities that exist at Rangitoto College while helping to remove financial barriers to involvement.

Applications for support are now open and students are invited to complete this [form](#) (please note that this is only available to students at Rangitoto College and so students will need to have logged in to access the form). Remember this can be for themselves or their club/activity. We have timed this fundraising to align with supporting student involvement in

big trips and events at the end of this term, like the Big Sing and Winter Tournament Week, as well as offering ongoing support for our clubs and activities. Applications will close Sunday 16th August with the decisions on funding being made on Tuesday 18th August. We will communicate directly with students after this for the allocation of funding. I look forward to sharing a summary with you on the areas this funding has supported.

CAA Co-Requisite Literacy and Numeracy Testing for Years 10 - 13

All Year 10 and selected Year 11-13 students will be involved in the NCEA Literacy & Numeracy common assessment activity across September 17th -18th (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 Years 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 cannot 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. This [Year 10 Digital Exam Preparation](#) slide show will support them to do this. 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 FACTS.

Entrance Exams for Years 12 and 13

Exams for Year 12 and 13 students begin on Wednesday 9th September running through until Friday 18th September. All students will receive an individualised timetable that they access through FACTS, with their examination room and time. Exam attendance is compulsory. Given the importance of these exams and the opportunity they provide to give students feedback prior to the November NCEA exams, students who do not attend *without a justified reason* will be followed up by a senior staff member (dean or senior leader) and allocated a catch-up time. For students in this situation, their exams cannot be used for derived grade purposes.

Students will receive a printed copy of their exam admission slip and timetable in Tutor Period closer to the exams; they must bring a copy of this with them to each exam, students without their admission slip will not be allowed to enter the examination room. These slips can be reprinted from FACTS at any time from Week 8 onwards.

Students in Year 12 and 13 need to attend school for the times they have examinations, as well as any timetabled classes (at Year 9 to 11) they are in. Normal school rules around uniform and dress apply. Year 10 or 11 students who have an exam still attend normal classes when they do not have an exam on. While the entrance exams are running, all Year 9, 10 and 11 classes operate as normal, although room changes will occur to accommodate examinations.

Course Selection 2027

Year 11 and 12 students should now have returned their pre-course checking sheets. Final course selection for Year 11 and 12 students happens at the start of Term 4. The Year 10 pathways evening is on August 25th. This provides an opportunity for parents and students to look at the various subjects and pathways from Year 10 through the senior school. Details will be emailed to parents.

Drop Offs and Parking

We need your support in minimising parental pick up and drop off on the school site. We recognise that there are many valid reasons as to why this must happen at times. However, we also have a large volume of traffic to manage, particularly during the start and end of day, and need to ensure safety and the flow of traffic. In the top carpark, there is a visitor carpark that is available for use during the day. Otherwise, this area is not appropriate for pick up and drop off as the traffic through here is significant, particularly at the end of the day. In the lower carpark, there is a bus bay which can be used for pick up and drop offs, when necessary. It is important that you remain with your car and do not park in this space, as it is needed for bus access during the day.

Uniform Shop New Pricing

Due to recent increases in supplier and manufacturing costs, there will be some [minor price adjustments](#) on a select number of uniform items starting on the 1st September 2026. We understand that family budgets are important, so as a result, we

have kept price adjustments to an absolute minimum. Our core everyday uniform items will largely remain at their current prices. The adjustments will primarily apply to our sportswear and extra-curricular items.

Lost Property

All lost property must now be collected by the students from the courier room, accessible from the auditorium foyer.

Collection is available at the following times:

Before school: 8.00 am - 8.30 am

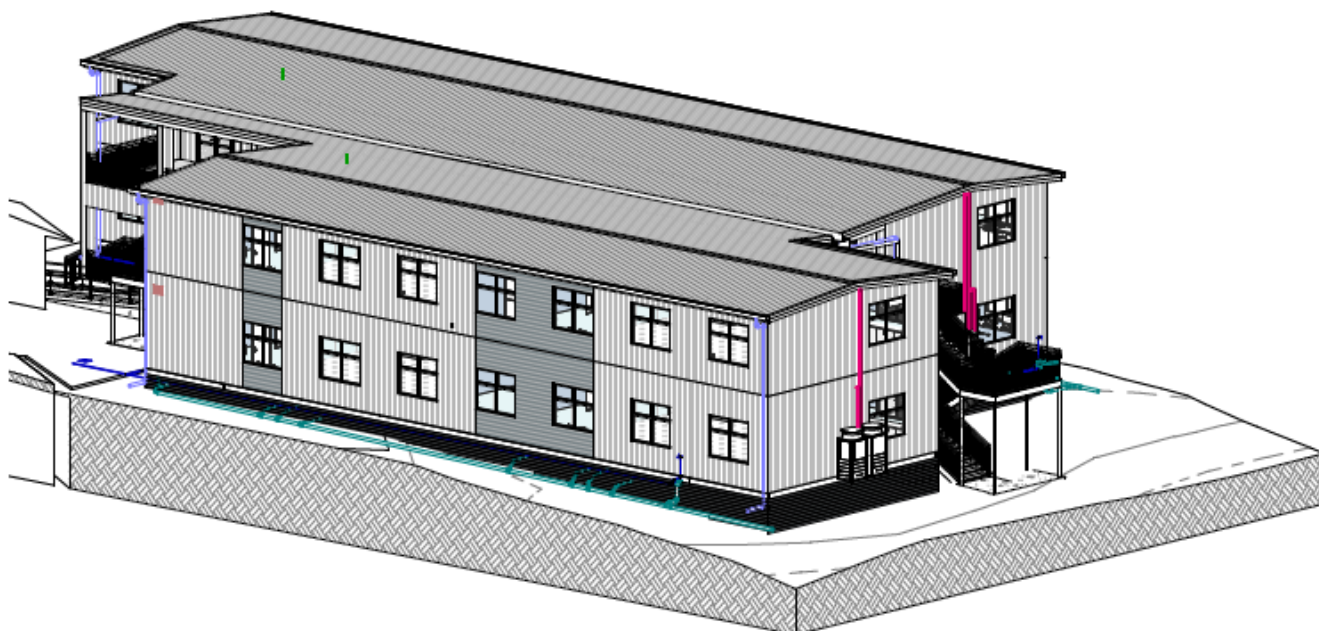
During break/lunch: 11.05 am - 11.30 am & 1.35 am - 2.15 pm

After school: 3.20 pm - 3.45 pm

Students will be emailed to let them know about any items that have been handed in. Reminder - all items at school must be named with student ID and full name e.g. HOP cards, PE bags, jumpers, jackets.

Property News

Construction of the new Technology/Library building continues to gain momentum with the roof construction expected to be completed by the end of the month. We are planning to occupy the building at the start of Term 3 next year after which the existing library building will be demolished. This week sees the start of the new 10-classroom Art Block getting underway. The building will be sited alongside Field 1 and below the Maths Block. With a modular construction, this block is expected to be completed by the end of the year.



Fay Meiklejohn - Netball NZ and Commonwealth Games

Finally today, I want to welcome Fay back from her stint at the Commonwealth Games. Fay is one of the most highly qualified netball umpires globally and was invited to the Games to coach the next wave of umpires and ensure a high and consistent standard of umpiring across the tournament. It did also come with the sweet little bonus of being there for the Silver Ferns gold medal winning match against Jamaica!

Kind regards,

Greg Thornton
Principal