



RANGITIKEI COLLEGE

Building an engaged, empowered, and flourishing learning community that knows no limits, and where we honour ourselves, each other, and the world around us.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Kia ora e nga whānau ki te kareti o Rangitikei.

Welcome, talofa lava, naumai to the new school year, especially to our new friends and families.

Last week was packed full of activities and start of year events, but things will be back to normal this week. Thank you for supporting your young people through these first few days and I hope they are now feeling back in the groove for school.

The year has begun with the shadow of the pandemic weighing even more heavily last year, and the emergence of Omicron has resulted in a markedly different government strategy to deal with it. According to the scientists, it is now highly likely that the disease will affect a large proportion of our school community over the next few months. The Ministries of Health and Education have undertaken extensive planning for schools in this situation and we will follow their advice.

Inevitably to keep everyone on site as safe as we can, this has resulted in changes to how we do things right now. The important ones include:

- **Mandatory mask wearing** by everyone onsite whilst indoors, and on school transport, unless they have a mask exemption. No one enjoys wearing masks, and it does lead to additional challenges for teachers and learners in the classroom, but I am very grateful for the level of compliance evident in the school and accepting that this is just the way it must be for now.

- **Limits on visitors to school.** This applies to school gatherings, although we can make some events work by separating visitors from students and confining them to distinct 'bubbles' of less than a hundred (if vaccinated). This means we are looking to allow visitors to our athletics sports in early March, but unfortunately, we do not have the space to allow this for swimming sports. Please note that parents and whānau do not have to be vaccinated to come to school at any time about matters related to their child's learning and wellbeing.

- **Within school gatherings.** We have been asked to minimise whole school gatherings indoors – such as school assemblies. While the weather is reasonable, we will hold these outside (Mondays, 8.40-9.10) as they form such a key role in developing a positive school culture.

February 2022

Next week we have our leadership assembly when prefects and other school leaders are announced, and later we have our annual academic assembly when we acknowledge fine NCEA results for the year before.

- **Classroom ventilation.** Constant air flow is regarded as a key defence to limit the spread of the virus so we are ensuring that windows and doors are open as much as we can.

A likely impact is also likely to be a higher level of student and staff absence, due to either illness, or being close contacts of those who are. We have plans to deal with this and have the capacity to offer ongoing learning from home to students who require this. If you have anything you wish to discuss in relation to these matters, please feel free to contact me.

Tomorrow (Thursday) night I look forward to either meeting for the first time, or reconnecting again, with families and whānau of our new students. This is a very informal get together with Academic Mentors and an opportunity to build a strong bond from the beginning between home and school.

I strongly believe that we do not enrol students at this school; we enrol families. Only when whānau and schools work together, can the best outcomes for young people be achieved.

Ngā mihi nui
Tony Booker, Principal

OUR 2022 DEANS



Junior Deans Year 9/10
Mrs. Helen Bishop-Curran
Mr. Anthony John



Senior Deans
Year 11 Mr. Lee Rennie
Year 12/13 Mrs. Michelle Graham

INTRODUCING...



I'm Toni Jenkins, and I am replacing Mrs April Bliss for 2022. I'll be teaching year 12 and 13 Biology, year 12 Chemistry and

two year 9 classes for science. I've been teaching Science for about 20 years, with 5 years in Tamaki Makaurau and 16 in Whanganui, mainly in Cullinane. I grew up in Nelson and did my university training in Canterbury at Lincoln University. I am the owner of four cars, two are classics from the 60's and the other 2 more modern. I also garden, knit and have two cats that are in charge at home. I have two sons and my partner Keith races classic stockcars. I'm really excited to be here; this is my first time in a rural school!

FACEBOOK

Connect with us on **FACEBOOK**. Go to **Rangitikei College** and press the **LIKE** button to keep up to date with news, events and photos.

www.rangitikeicollege.school.nz

EXCELLENCE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY - LEVEL 3 ART



We are not so surprised but definitely proud of two shining stars of Rangitikei College, Jade Gray and Penny Whitton who graduated in 2021, both achieved Excellence for their L3 external portfolios in 2021 in painting. This is no easy achievement and puts these talented ladies in the top percentile in the country for young artists their age.

Even against the odds, and with all the disruptions they applied the skills and knowledge they had gained thus far and with the support of their peers and a flourishing creative space they have achieved what few can.

Both Jade and Penny are continuing their studies this year, and we wish them well and every success. Stay creative.

Mrs Vanessa Buerger
H.O.D Art

SCHOOL POOL

The school pool will be open after Whanau Brunch every day for students to use. You must be in correct swimwear and follow the pool rules.

Mrs Hannah Komene
H.O.D Health & PE

STATIONERY LISTS

Stationery lists are on our Facebook page or can be picked up from the school office. Students are expected to have all their stationery before **Week 4** please. Stationery can be purchased from the school office at back-to-school prices. EFTPOS is available.

Please note: Chromebooks, Calculators and Textbooks are not compulsory as we can supply these through school.

FOOTWEAR REMINDER

Please make sure your child wears sneakers/shoes or sandals when they are unable to wear their school shoes. The minimum requirements for Laboratories and Technology rooms are that shoes cover the foot and that sandals have a back strap that is done up. Therefore, scuffs or jandals are not acceptable. Shoes need to be black leather/ leather look.



School sandals are Summer only.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A reminder regarding uniform is that if you are not in the correct uniform, a note for the item of clothing and length of time needed is to be given to your Academic Mentor.

The school uniform is compulsory for all students Years 9 to 13. It must be worn correctly and kept clean and tidy. All students' clothing and other property must be clearly and permanently named. Our official uniform is available from the Warehouse in Feilding and can also be purchased online by going to www.thewarehouse.co.nz then under 'Kids' Clothing' click on 'Uniforms by Schooltex' and enter Rangitikei College.

SUNSCREEN SUN HATS

A reminder to students to put on sunscreen. The college also provides sunscreen for all outdoor classes and activities. We have bucket hats (**\$7.50**) and school caps (**\$10**) available from the office.

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SPORTS REPORT

Wishing a warm welcome to all our new and returning students as they embark on their 2022 year of learning and active participation at Rangitikei College. 2021 has been a year that once again provided many challenges in the sporting sector and beyond, and it is my personal wish for 2022 that we will see some "normalcy" return for our sport and active recreational activities this year. As always, the school will be guided by the advice from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and SportNZ to ensure a safe playing environment for all our athletes.

What we do know so far is that vaccine passports will be required to participate in all our school teams as directed by the organising clubs and Sport NZ. **This means that all students over the age of 12 will be required to be double vaccinated to play in the competitions as well as their supporters who attend the games.** This information is evolving with changes made by organising clubs, and we will endeavour to continue to inform our parents of new information surrounding the sport and recreational activities. We understand that this may disappoint some of our families and our athletes and so Rangitikei College will be working hard to ensure that sporting opportunities are offered to our students within a college competition so that our children can still enjoy the benefits of sport and recreation.

Term 1 is busy, especially as your children adjust into the new routines of college. Some key dates to look out for in the beginning of term include,

February 16 - Rangitikei College Swim Sports Day

February 25 - Rangitikei College Try - A - Tri

March 2 - Rangitikei College Athletics Day

March 4 - Whanganui Secondary Schools Swim Champs

March 15 - Whanganui Secondary Schools Athletic Champs

Activities that will be offered to all students in Term 1 include: Archery, Cricket, Lawn Bowls, Rowing, Volleyball, Softball and Swimming.

A new and exciting opportunity for all students this year is our Swimming Programme that will be launching during IQ time on a Wednesday. Under the instruction of Trevor Nicholls students will learn to swim, improve their strokes and learn valuable water safety skills. Students will swim locally until the winter months at which time they will travel to Whanganui Splash Centre. Students who commit to the course for the entire year will also benefit from receiving their Lifeguard Certification. The course will be offered FREE to all students and offers potential summer employment at the local Marton pool during the summer months upon completion. All swimming abilities are invited and welcome.

I have lots of sport and recreational opportunities planned for your children this year. However, sometimes opportunities do go overlooked so, if at any time you wish for me to investigate a new activity to offer at College, please do get in touch so that we can ensure it is available to all students.

We are always looking to our Rangitikei College families and wider community for support in coaching, managing and driving our school vans to games. Without this support it is not possible to offer the range of activities to our students. If you are interested in assisting in anyway with any of our teams, please contact Mrs. Rayner,

Director of Sport, to discuss your involvement.

Mrs. Emily Rayner
Director of Sport

CELEBRATING OUR ATHLETES



Congratulations to Amy Gust who was chosen to compete in the Lower North Island Golf Croquet team event held in Waikanae over the holidays. Amy Gust has been working hard to reduce her handicap while getting in practise time at the Marton Croquet Club. At the event Amy was up against players twice her age and was praised for her sportsmanship and skill. We are very proud of Amy for truly living and demonstrating our REAP values both at school and at outside competitions. Well done Amy!



Our rowers had a busy summer on the Whanganui River, travelling over three times a week to row with Aramoho Club. The group had participated in a few fun races on the river but over the summer Samantha Rooke and Robyn Van Dijk travelled to Hawkes Bay to compete in their first regatta. The pair made it into the A Final which is a HUGE accomplishment for their

first competition. They also competed in a quad and octi race with fellow club rowers from Whanganui Highschool. The pair are praised by their coaches who have high expectations for them should they wish to continue in the sport. They were set to compete in the North Island Secondary School competition in the last weekend of the holidays, however, this was cancelled due to the red traffic light setting. Last weekend the pair competed in an interclub race against Union Club in Whanganui. Samantha and Robyn beat the competition easily and nearly beat their own club quad boat! Way to go Samantha and Robyn, we are very proud of your commitment to rowing.



Mrs Emily Rayner
Director of Sport

PARENT PORTAL

LOG IN TO
PARENT PORTAL

Parents and caregivers can access the parent portal through our school website.
www.rangitikeicollege.school.nz

Here you can view Daily Notices, Timetables, Caregiver and Medical details. As well as Financial, Attendance, results for JCA, NCEA and Awards. Ask your child for your login details through their Academic Mentor or phone the school office on **06 327 7024**.

SCHOOL PARKING



Our visitor's car park is for parents/caregivers calling in during the day. **It is not for dropping off or picking up your child.** We ask that you pick up and drop off your child **outside the school gates and don't block the driveway or park on yellow lines.** Students crossing the road, please take care, it's a busy time with traffic at the end of the school day. We appreciate your support in keeping ourselves safe.

ID VERIFICATION



Thank you to those who have provided ID verification in the form of a birth certificate or current passport. It is a Ministry of Education requirement when enrolling that we obtain a copy. A photocopy can be taken at the school office or alternatively you can scan and email a copy to: mbelk@rangitikeicollege.school.nz

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

Thu 10 Feb, 4.30-6.30pm Year 9 and new enrolments Hui
Tue 15 Feb ID Photos
Wed 16 Feb Swimming Sports
Wed 2 Mar Athletics
Fri 4 Mar WSS Swim champs
Thu 3/Fri 4 Mar Learning Conferences
Fri 11 Mar Staff only day
Tue 15 Mar WSS Athletic champs
Tue 15 Mar Year 13 Camp (tbc)
Thu 14 Apr Last day of Term 1
Fri 15 Mar Good Friday

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

School Stream App - Our App is FREE and easy to use. Notify us with your child's absence, receive the newsletter, event information and reminders. Connect to our website, Facebook page, email and phone via the App.



1. From your mobile device go to the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android), search for School Stream and download the app to your phone.
2. Make sure you agree to push notifications.
3. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type in Rangitikei College.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

