DEAR FAMILIES

If you are like me Christmas is rapidly approaching and I am still yet to make up the Christmas lists let alone the purchases! It has been another wonderful year at Rangi Ruru and the Leavers' Communion Service, Clan Carol Services as well as the upcoming Prize Giving and Year 13 Leavers' Ball all mark special times when we can come together as a community, remember, reflect and celebrate these occasions.

JUNIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION - HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Congratulations to the combined team from Christ's College and Rangi Ruru who together delivered an outstanding musical. I was enthralled by their talent, enthusiasm and passion and it was wonderful seeing the obvious joy that this experience brought to them all.

YEARS 7 AND 8 MARKET DAY

Congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 girls for their wonderful Market Day that was held earlier last week. The time and effort they had put into their businesses was evident and the range from dog biscuits to bath salts and crafts had something for everyone. They made a grand total of $1,385.68 and the Year 8 girls proudly set off to Northlands Mall to purchase presents for those children whose parents will be in prison at Christmas time. I commend them for their generosity of spirit. I am sure that these gifts will mean such a lot to the children who receive them.

STAFF FAREWELLS

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following staff members who will be leaving us at the end of this year. We wish you all the very best for your future and thank you for the contribution that you have made to our school.

- Frances Barnett – Boarding House Day Manager
- Bridget Blunden – GAP student
- Mathilde Caër – French Language Assistant
- Sally Coughlan – Boarding House Day Manager
- Shirley Eng – ESOL teacher
- Michael Lawrence – Jazz Band Director
- Catherine Low – Physics and Global Living Teacher
- Amanda Macpherson – English Teacher
- Hitomi Ogi – ARA Intern
- Astrid Sommaruga – Learning Centre Leader
- Jo West – English Teacher
FROM the Principal CONT.

2017 ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Thank you to the generous folk who have got the ball rolling with the 2017 Annual Appeal. To date we have received $10,000. It is not too late to consider making a donation and if you would like to do so click here>>

As this is the last InTouch for 2017, I would like to wish the girls who are leaving us at the end of this year all the best for their life journey. This year our Senior Leaders came up with the theme to “Be Bold and Break Barriers”. I hope that you can all reflect back over the year and acknowledge those moments when you have done just that. I leave you with this quote and I hope that you will continue to be bold. Remember the only person stopping you from becoming all that you can be is you.

“Be Bold enough to use your voice, Brave enough to listen to your heart and strong enough to live the life you’ve always imagined.”

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May this festive time be filled with happiness.

To our returning students and families, I look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Dr Sandra K Hastie
Principal

FROM the Deputy Principal

PRIZEGIVING 2017

A reminder that all students are expected to attend Prizegiving on Tuesday 5 December at the Horncastle Arena, commencing at 6.30pm. Please leave plenty of time for parking. In the unexpected event that your daughter is unable to attend please put this in writing to the Principal.

Year 13 Parents and VIP guests will be seated in sections NN & LL and enter via Stairway 3. All other parents and students are to enter through Stairway 2 or 3. Please ensure you are seated by 6.20pm.

Girls (except Year 13) will need to check in with their tutors prior to being seated between 6pm and 6.15pm.

Prizewinners, performers and Year 13 students need to sit in the designated areas. Prizewinners are required to arrive by 6pm and all other performers by 5.45pm. Girls are expected to be dressed in full, correct summer uniform.

This is a highlight of the school year and we look forward to you joining us in the celebration of our prizewinners and Year 13 leavers.

YEAR 12 BLAZERS

Year 12 girls will need to have the Year 13 braid put on their blazers for 2018.

We offer a service for all girls to hand in their blazers straight after prizegiving. Look out for Nicki Pooley near the front doors and she will sort everything. Blazazers will be available when the girls come back for Sisterhood Day. Please ensure the blazer is named, free of badges and there is nothing in the pockets.

Any queries please email n.pooley@rangiruru.school.nz

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSURE

The School Office will close for the Christmas period at 4pm on Thursday 21 December and reopen at 8.30am to 4pm on Monday 15 January.

START OF YEAR 2018

There will be two Teacher Only Days on Tuesday 25 and Friday 26 January.

The Student Leadership Team and Year 13 Form Seniors will be required for training from Wednesday 24 January.

Year 13 Senior Sisterhood Day for all Year 13 students and Year 12 Peer Support Training will start at 9am on Friday 26 January.

The school term begins for Years 7 and 9 students only on Monday 29 January.

All students will attend on Tuesday 30 January.

Please refer to the email from your Dean for details that will be sent out on 21 December.
HOST FAMILIES FOR YOKOHAMA JOGAKUIN STUDENTS

We are lucky to have a strong and enduring relationship with our sister school in Japan. Every year their Year 10 students visit us for three days and in that brief time, friendships are formed. We have had an annual reciprocal exchange for two students for nearly 20 years and although we don't teach Japanese we see the benefits of this global connection continuing. There is an opportunity for two Rangi Ruru students to be hosted at the school and with a family for five weeks at the start of Term 1 and for two Yokohama students to be hosted by Rangi families for five weeks in Term 2. If you would like to be considered as a host family, or your daughter would love to have this opportunity, please email Tania Morgan by 15 December t.morgan@rangiruru.school.nz

Stephanie Barnett
Deputy Principal

FROM the Deputy Principal CONTINUED

NCEA AND SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS PUBLISHED IN JANUARY

Printed NCEA results are not sent out automatically by NZQA but printed copies can be requested by students through their learner login between now and 31 December. It is simply a matter of ticking the box. Please make sure that your daughter does this as this is the official transcript of their results and can then be copied for applications when needed. Students are entitled to one free NCEA certificate per year on request. Scholarship results will be sent to all candidates in February.

Examination papers will be returned to the New Zealand address that is on the student's admission slip. If you have changed address, or know that you will before the end of January, please inform the school and we can change our records.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

All Years 7-10 reports for parents will be available at the end of Term 4, as are the Years 12 and 13 Leavers' Profiles. Reports will be emailed home and at the same time are available to download from RangiLife.

Juliet Collins Assistant Principal - Curriculum

SUPPORT ANZ OLYMPIC SCHOOLS' PROGRAMME

Rangi Ruru is proud to be working with ANZ who have developed the Olympic Schools' Programme to inspire and motivate New Zealand's youth through the magic and celebration of the Olympic Games. If you are looking at taking out a home loan with ANZ see here for more info.
On behalf of the PTA, we would like to thank our parents and school community for their continued support throughout the year. The PTA have been focusing on making connections within our community, especially with new families to our school. This will continue next year as well.

Our main fundraising effort was our Golf Day earlier in the year which was a great success not only for the money raised, but also for a great atmosphere and a chance to bring our parents, staff and community supporters together.

We are also proud of the parent education opportunities that we provide and this year our evening on understanding the law concerning teenagers, was a great success.

There are so many people to thank, but I would like to especially note the tireless voluntary time and effort that Nicki puts into our second hand uniform sales. She is one of those unsung heroes who quietly goes about her work which is of huge benefit to us.

There are also members who will be retiring from the PTA. Of note are Sue Spiers and Christine Duxbury who will be moving onto greener pastures. Both have been a tremendous asset to our committee and to the school. Many Barbeques, barn dances and fundraising activities have been their hobby for many years!

My personal thanks go to Mike Gooby our Treasurer, Gillian Dunn our Vice President, Lynne McDonald and Charlotte Bryden Secretaries and Stephanie Barnett our fabulous Deputy Principal, for their unwavering support throughout the year.

Finally, your PTA wishes you a safe and happy festive holiday and we look forward to reconnecting with you all and our new families in 2018.

Julie Calder

May the Christmas season fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter.

We hope that you are enjoying Koko. We welcome your feedback to ensure we are connecting with and celebrating the Rangi family as best we can. We also remind you that advertising opportunities are available. If you are interested in advertising in Koko please contact Emma at e.taurua@rangiruru.school.nz for a rate card and to book your space.

CHANGED YOUR CONTACT DETAILS?

If your contact details for phone, email or postal address change throughout the year, please remember to let us know.

Email office@rangiruru.school.nz or call 03 983 3700 to update your contact details at any time.
Recently along with 40 careers advisors from other schools in New Zealand, I attended the University of Otago Conference for Teachers. It had a strong focus on transition to university, student accommodation, updates on programmes and majors, as well as student services and support at Otago. We stayed at University College for three nights, visited Aquinas, Carrington, City College and other residential halls, and learned about the living-learning communities where students are professionally supported in all aspects. The University of Otago – For School Students Facebook page was introduced, and it is for students to stay informed about what is happening at the University of Otago.

Professors from a variety of departments highlighted some new and existing programs at University of Otago:

- To help students become global citizens, the collaboration between two Otago departments has resulted in the new Bachelor of Arts subject – Tourism, Languages and Cultures. It is a three-year degree for those who wish to work in the general field of tourism either in New Zealand or overseas.

- Most students think about Health Sciences as a pathway to Medical school, however, Otago has established a new pathway for those who want to work in health and make a difference to the lives of individuals and communities. The Bachelor of Health Sciences is a three-year degree for those who want to work in health in the areas of public health, Maori health, Pacific health or community health.

- The school of Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Sciences is restructuring its offerings for students who enrol in 2019 and beyond. The four-year BPhEd will be restructured in to a three-year Bachelor of Applied Science in Physical Education, Activity & Health; a three-year Bachelor of Sciences in Exercise and Sport Science; and a three-year Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts in Sport Development and Management.

- The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics programme at Otago is the only program of its type in New Zealand. It is a collaboration between the Business School and the Division of Humanities, and from 2018 it will be a new major within Bachelor of Commerce.

OTAGO COURSE PLANNING SESSIONS:

Monday 4 December – Friday 9 December, 9am – 4pm, Chairman's Suite, Addington Events Centre.

For Year 13 who missed the Course Planning session at school or still need course planning advice for next year, please meet with Prajesh, the Otago Liaison Officer. Book an appointment by: Tel 04 460 9850 or email Margaret.tobin@otago.ac.nz

YOUR PATH TO MEDICAL SCHOOL:
CHRISTCHURCH

For those of you that are interested in the medical path, please come to the free information session to learn from medical school experts about applying for and attending medical school in New Zealand and Australia. Current medical students at The University of Auckland and University of Otago will provide an interactive session, which will cover: Careers in medicine; the academic requirements, the interview system (MMI) at The University of Auckland; applying to Australian medical schools; life of a medical student (pre-clinical and clinical years); tackling the common med school misconceptions, etc. To RSVP, please go to Your Path to Medical School Registration.

COMMUNICATIONS OVER TERM BREAK:

I will still be working over the term break so please contact me if you have questions on job application, university enrolment and any other topic. My email is w.qiu@rangiruru.school.nz and I’m more than happy to schedule an appointment with you over Skype.

Wen Qiu
Pathways and Careers Strategist
RANGI RURU PRESCHOOL

Where play helps children feel good about themselves!

Here at Rangi Ruru Preschool, we believe that small is definitely better. Our daily group size of 30 children, and low teacher to child ratio's means that every child is provided with individualised care and education, by a team of fully qualified and highly experienced teachers who know them and their families exceptionally well.

Our links with the school are well established and almost every day we are able to explore and join in with something occurring within our community. This year we have had more opportunities to work alongside the 'big girls' on extended learning projects, which has been of benefit to the learning outcomes for both the preschoolers and our Rangi girls.

Children at Rangi Ruru Preschool develop their social, emotional and cognitive skills through play. Children learn more in the first few years than they learn at any other stage of their lives, and planning and providing for involvement in engaging and challenging play experiences is what our teaching team do best.

Play enables children to express feelings and practice roles along with impulse control. Through play children also learn to negotiate the give and take of relationships with others. A good deal of children's important early learning about how to express and manage their feelings takes place through play. Children's play is an important training ground for intellectual and emotional development. This learning underpins much of children's future success and well-being.

Play helps children develop a positive sense of self. Play provides opportunities for children to have power over what they do, what and how they learn. Here at Rangi Ruru our programme is fundamentally underpinned by a belief that children will be confident and competent in their learning when they have many opportunities for un-interrupted free play alongside their peers. This doesn't mean chaos and no guidance, rather it means having a well-planned environment, carefully considered curriculum resources and teachers who scaffold learning and interactions through sensitive observation and strong trusting relationships.

Our positive view of children and their abilities, along with our promotion of kind play, what it means to be a ‘friend’ and manaakitanga (kindness, generosity, support – the process of showing respect, generosity and care for others) enables children to make great decisions and develop their own interests and abilities to the full, within a group situation.

Our centre is open to children aged 2 years – school entry, Monday – Friday 8-5 pm and offers 20 Hours ECE and flexible bookings. We also offer a Rangi Ruru staff discount and a friends and families booking incentive for Rangi Ruru Girls' School families.

You will find us at 46 Rhodes Street (just next to the Boarding House), email us on preschool@rangiruru.ac.nz and check out our website: www.rangirurupreschool.nz
OUR ELIBRARY NOW HAS AUDIOBOOKS!
Over the Summer break students can continue to borrow eBooks and Audiobooks from our ePlatform rangiruru.wheelers.co. With 24/7 access our eLibrary doesn’t close over summer, so no matter where you are, providing there is internet access, you can download an Audiobook or eBook title to your phone or device. While many may feel there is no substitute for a ‘real book’ we have added Audiobooks to the eLibrary to extend the reading/listening experience for the students and to help keep the reading momentum alive over the Summer. Listening to a borrowed Audiobook is easy, as you don’t need an extra player or programme for it to work. You can access the eLibrary via the ePlatform App, or on the Desktop version. Phones are particularly good for audio titles, and Audiobooks are great for long car journeys.

The Audiobooks are part of a shared platform and students may have to reserve popular titles, but there are many to choose from. Audio titles can be downloaded to devices on the same Wheelers App used for eBooks, with the same login (Student number and 1234 as the default password).

Nurture the habit for a lifetime love of reading for leisure
Johnann Williams, Library Manager

DECEMBER KEY DATES

Please click here for a full calendar

SUNDAY 3, DECEMBER
4:00pm Clan Carol Service - Balmoral, Doune and Stirling
7:00pm Clan Carol Service - Braemar, Dunvegan and Glamis

TUESDAY 5, DECEMBER
11:00am Term 4 ends
6:30pm Prizegiving

THURSDAY 7, DECEMBER
5:30pm Leavers’ Ball pre drinks
7:00pm Leavers’ Ball – Wigram

THURSDAY 21, DECEMBER
4:00pm Office closes - reopens 15 January 2018

SHOP HOURS

DECEMBER
Saturday 2  10am - 2pm
Tuesday 5  11am – 4pm (Last day of term)
Wednesday 13  3pm – 6pm
Thursday 14  3pm – 6pm
Friday 15  3pm – 6pm
Saturday 16  10am – 2pm

JANUARY
Monday 15  10am – 2pm
Tuesday 16  10am – 2pm
Wednesday 17  10am – 2pm
Thursday 18  10am – 2pm
Friday 19  10am – 2pm
Saturday 20  10am – 2pm
Thursday 25  2pm – 3pm
Friday 26  2pm – 3pm
Saturday 27  12pm - 1pm

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ABSENTEES
03 983 3786

SCHOOL OFFICE
03 983 3700

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS