



# Rangiora High School

*Te Kura Tuarua o Rangiora*

## Newsletter - March 2011

### *Students Step Up after Earthquake*

Literally hours after the earthquake shook on the 22 February, students of Rangiora High School were already planning how they were to help out in the days that were to follow. Whether it be cooking food, shovelling silt, pushing wheelbarrows, making portable toilets, donating bedding or taking in families without homes we can be proud of students from Rangiora High School who volunteered.

One of the biggest jobs RHS students got stuck in to in the earthquake zones was shovelling silt in the eastern suburbs and Kaiapoi. I was involved with the group that met each morning at 9.30am at the AMI car-park armed with shovels and wheelbarrows. This amazing group of up to 70 students worked long days cleaning up streets and houses in Shirley. Another group, formed through Facebook, worked in Kaiapoi and around QEII. Transport to and from Rangiora was provided free of charge by Torlesse Travel. Even when driving home from town, I would often see RHS students with their families helping out around the city, doing whatever they could to make life easier for others.



As well as these 'shovellers' we also had RHS students volunteering at the welfare centre, the Rangiora Earthquake Express, organising sports activities in town and making portable toilets. Not to mention those whose families have taken in displaced friends and relatives from Christchurch.

It's hard to put into words how much the help from Rangiora High School students meant to the communities affected by the earthquake and it is almost impossible to give the amount of credit that is due to our students in the form of a few words.

When called upon the students at our school truly stepped up to the mark and helped those in need. We can all be extremely proud of our efforts knowing that what we did has helped out families throughout Canterbury whose lives will never be the same.

I'm proud to be a part of such a caring school.

Michael McRae  
Head Boy

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## From the Principal



Kia Ora Koutou Katoa, greetings to parents, caregivers and friends of the school.

Over the last four weeks the events of 22 February 2011 have been at the forefront of not only our local and national news, but have been a focus for international news channels like CNN, ABC, and BBC World. As a country we are used to watching the news, not being the news and the horror and devastation of the Christchurch earthquake will be with us as a country, as a community, as a school and as individuals forever.

During those initial days and weeks our individual resilience was tested, as a school our systems and organisation were tested, as a community our preparedness to manage and cope in a crisis was sorely tested and as a country our commitment to each other was tested. Without exception we achieved excellence.

I want to thank all of our students for their response on Tuesday 22 February. For the first time, as a school, we had to respond to an alarm that signalled a real crisis not a drill. Their discipline and self-restraint belied the seriousness of the situation and allowed the staff to accomplish the necessary evacuation in a seamless and timely fashion.

There are very few organisations that can evacuate nearly 1800 people in less than five minutes with the military precision we achieved on that day. I especially want to thank the staff for their professionalism and commitment to our students and their safety even when, for many of them, in the fore-front of their minds was the safety of their own family members.

As a school we were fortunate to sustain only minimal damage in what turned out to be a 6.3 magnitude earthquake. As well, we were extremely fortunate that we suffered no casualties. I want to publically thank the Ministry of Education for investing 1.5 million dollars in our structural re-strengthening project, for B, C and D Blocks, completed in May 2010. It is fair to say that had that project not been completed last year our outcomes would have been significantly less positive. We have so much to be thankful for.

During the two weeks that we were closed the school was transformed into a Civil Defence Welfare Centre. It was heart-breaking to see so many significantly affected people arriving from Christchurch, many in only the clothes they stood up in.

What galvanised us as a community was our commitment to supporting these people in their time of

great need. It was humbling to see so many Rangiora residents working as volunteers, distributing food and water, opening their homes and offering support. As a community we have so much to be proud of.

Our thoughts and best wishes go also to our sister schools in Christchurch many of which have sustained substantial damage and disruption. We are privileged to have the opportunity to open our doors to over 75 students seeking a temporary place on our roll while their own schools face the challenge of rebuilding and or re-establishing systems and routines. Our staff and students have welcomed these students without complaint even when class sizes have risen to 36 in many instances.

On occasion you will hear people say 'schools are not the real world'. I disagree. As a school community we can demonstrate we have an appreciation of real world situations and real life challenges.

Through our House system we take many opportunities to serve our community in a genuine effort to make the lives of other people better. Our House fundraising, community projects and humanitarian efforts are laudable and our student body is to be commended for their efforts.

In the days following the earthquake many of our students stepped out into the 'real world' and made a significant contribution. Many of them worked hard and stepped up and many of them changed people's lives for the better as a result. They proved on the 22 February 2011 and in the days that followed that school is not the dress rehearsal – it is the real world, a training ground for who you are, who you want to be, and who you can be.

As responsible young people, in a real life crisis - a national civil emergency - they ensured that the weakest and most vulnerable in our community were protected. Instead of standing back and saying 'this has got nothing to do with me' many of them took every opportunity to jump in there, boots and all (literally) and help.

Since the events of 22 February 2011 our students - your sons and daughters - proved that they are responsible young people. They demonstrated that they are thoughtful, that they can and do act wisely and that they are responsible.

The German philosopher Nietzsche wrote – 'that which does not kill us makes us stronger.' The Christchurch earthquake provided many challenges and many hard life lessons but ultimately it has made us stronger. I am very proud of all of our students and very proud of our school. Kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui.

Mrs Peggy Burrows  
**Principal**



## HILLARY

**HEAD OF HOUSE** Mr N Moyle

**DEAN OF HOUSE** Mr A Cotter

Hillary House has had a busy, albeit interrupted, start to 2011.

For the first time in a long time we did not come last in Athletic Sports. Once again 12HGL were the dominant force in tug o' war. They have now gone four years without losing in this event. That is some record.

A number of Hillary students have had sporting success in recent times. Sheldon Pitama 11HCT and Josh Siu 11HVV have been awarded scholarships by the Melbourne Storm NRL franchise to visit and train with the franchise in the April holidays. Ben Fisher 11HML was a member of the under 16 quad which gained third at the South Island Secondary Schools' Rowing Championships. Thomas Zahner 13HMG was second in the lightweight double sculls. Michael Pascoe 12HGL was the cox for the under 16 quad. Jaye Atkin 13HMG came first in the Senior Individual Girls' Canterbury Secondary Schools' triathlon on Tuesday. Congratulations must also go to members of 10HPP who completed the ASDAN programme at the end of 2010. They are Jasimin Barton, Cody Walsh, Darwin McAlister, Hannah Thomson, Toa Haimona, Jordan Metcalfe, Harriet Batchelor, Jorjah Hill and Mikayla Rogers-Hancox.

Recently, Hillary form classes built sleds to race against each other after House assembly. Despite a bit of rain, the students all got stuck in and pulled their sleds along the 100m track. The best senior class was 13HMG. The best junior class was 10HRO.



## LYDIARD

**HEAD OF HOUSE** Mr D Palmer

**DEAN OF HOUSE** Mrs P Graham

We were extremely proud of the results gained by the senior students of Lydiard House last year, a significant number of our students gained passes with Excellence in their examinations; which shows the hard work they, their parents and staff put in. It was an exciting beginning to the year with a new and vibrant Student Executive with different goals and ideas for Lydiard House in 2011. The House Captains, Chelsea Williams and Rachael Godfrey, had their team working well and a new House day was organised with an element of competition. The winning form class was from 11LSO and they were rewarded for their efforts. Sports' Day was brilliantly organised and the fields were a sea of colour (with orange obviously the most attractive colour on show). A big competition has developed between the Lydiard form classes with 10LBN just beating 12LHM for the most points achieved on the day. 10LBN now hold the converted Orange Shoe award until the next challenge. Orange Shoe challenges will be held throughout the year. Usually in Term 1 we hold the Lydiard Fun run to raise money for the training of a Guide Dog. Due to the recent disruption we will now hold this later in the year. Blair McConnell who inspired us to raise money for this cause was in the print media re-telling how his brave and highly trained Guide Dog Kiwi lead him out of the earthquake ravaged buildings. The link to this is [www.stuff.co.nz/4736593/Brave-Kiwi-saves-master](http://www.stuff.co.nz/4736593/Brave-Kiwi-saves-master). It is always pleasing to hear fantastic reports about our students. Lydiard students have been successful in many sporting areas from Archery to Mountain Biking. We hope we can be just as successful in the Senior SummerFest currently under way.





## MANSFIELD

**HEAD OF HOUSE** Mrs M Stephenson

**DEAN OF HOUSE** Mr A Drayton

Mansfield House had a fantastic start to the year, due to incredible huge student enthusiasm, loyal and hardworking staff, 22 peer support leaders from Year 13 and Year 12, and a well organised, energetic executive team. Mansfield's 2011 Executive are Jared Graham and Jasmine Hill (House Captains) assisted by Kate Rowe, Cameron Godfrey, Caitlin Kippenberger and Aidan Stewart. We also have the privilege of having Renee Macdonald and Nick Deerson on the team – Rangiora High's Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy. Big Arvo Out provided a very successful start to the year's activities. As always, members of Mansfield House came together for the first time, shared yellow buzzy bee ideas, clever costumes and committed themselves to nothing less than a win. On Sports' Day, after gathering at the Court of Memories, we slow jogged/walked together behind the buzzy bee yellow courier van (thanks to Cameron's dad) over to our tent. From then on Mansfield students excelled. Every event produced champions that were to make this day the "best ever" and resulted in a clear win for Mansfield. Since then, however, we have had the tragedy that the earthquake has brought to Christchurch. We are proud of the large number of our students who personally lent assistance shovelling silt, cooking food for distribution and assisting in many other ways. We welcome all the new students from other schools to Rangiora High School and especially those in Mansfield House. Our thoughts and feelings also go out to our Japanese students, many of whom have friends in Christchurch and back home in Japan at the latest natural disaster.



## NGATA

**HEAD OF HOUSE** Mr R Winson

**DEAN OF HOUSE** Mrs V Wilkins

It has once again been a pleasure to welcome in such a wonderful group of young people into Ngata House for 2011. Their form teachers Mr Sullivan and Mrs Aldhamland have been working hard with the Year 13 Peer Support Leaders to make them feel welcome and settled in their new surroundings. Both classes are performing at a high standard in terms of behaviour and commitment to their learning and their House. In Week 1, Ngata House spent a great afternoon at Waikuku Beach where we relaxed and caught up with each other over a swim and a bite to eat, before launching into preparation for Sports Day. On the day, Ngata House gave it everything and it was super to see our relay teams winning two of the four relays during a highly charged finale. However, despite our best efforts we narrowly missed out on second place finishing a credible third place.

Our new senior executive is also firing into a new year. Brier O'Shea and Bennington Garbutt, our House Captains (pictured at right), arrived at Sports Day via helicopter! Lucy and Jess, our Competitions executive, are proving to be a great asset and are currently managing Senior Touch and Volleyball teams in Summerfest. Chris and Kim on Promotions and Fundraising are also working hard. One developing project is our newly identified charity. Ngata House is to be supporting Riding for the Disabled Association (North Canterbury). This is a highly worthwhile organisation and one which will give our students and community some super experiences and opportunities in the future. Onward and upward Ngata House!





## **RUTHERFORD**

**HEAD OF HOUSE** *Mr M Williams*

**DEAN OF HOUSE** *Mrs S Reed*

What a dramatic, but fantastic, start to the year! Despite the earthquake, Rutherford House managed a very stable start to 2011. The highlight was the arrival of our new Year 9 students. We spent the first week at Powhiri, Big Arvo Out at Woodend Beach and Sports' Day. These activities were valuable as they gave our students the opportunity to meet new staff and students. Week 2 allowed us to settle into the routines of the classroom and our students had the opportunity to settle into very good work habits.

The Junior Graduation Programme is now in its second year and all junior students will have to graduate with a 60% pass rate in order to progress to the following year of study. The students will be measured on homework, self management and key tasks during the year. This will form an academic foundation for their years in the senior school. We would like all parents to make appointments to see classroom teachers during the upcoming interviews to check on the academic progress of your students in Term 1.

Our Year 10 Classes have been on camp to the Boyle River. Unfortunately this was cut short due to the dramatic events of 22 February. The students were able to camp out in tents, do activities and learn some outdoor skills.

For all the new parents of Year 9 students, we say a big welcome to Rutherford House. To all our "established" parents, we challenge you to call us for a chat about your child's progress in 2011.



## **SHEPPARD**

**HEAD OF HOUSE** *Ms A Hay*

**DEAN OF HOUSE** *Mr K Anderson*

A very special welcome to all of the students who have joined Sheppard House from Christchurch schools. We would like to thank the many students of our House who gave tirelessly of their time to assist others who had suffered damage to their homes and properties as a result of the recent earthquake – shovelling silt, baking and helping with the distribution of food. These young people epitomise the values that our House is built on. Sheppard House had a very exciting start to the year, finishing for the first time ever, in second place in the House rankings after Sports' Day. For the second year running, 11SGB won the Spirit of Sheppard Trophy, which is awarded to the form class gaining the most points on Sports' Day. This year we have a very strong, enthusiastic team of House Leaders: Sarah Hayman (House Captain) and Hayley Richards (Deputy House Captain) are supported by Bernadine Eves, Hannah Graham, Erin Ollis and Madeleine Wesselingh. Our Junior House Captains are George Howat and Zoe Ladd supported by Luke Solvander and Lizzie Mullan. If we can continue with our initial competitive spirit and enthusiasm, we are strong contenders for the House Cup at the end of the year. It is wonderful to see how well our Year 9 students have settled into the routines of secondary school, with their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved in the many activities on offer at Rangiora High School. We are very excited about 2011 and look forward to watching the students of Sheppard House gaining success in all areas of school life. It is going to be a great year!



## Student Interviews

Parents and caregivers are invited to use School-links (from Wednesday 23 March) to make five minute appointments with the relevant subject teachers between 3.30pm and 5.00pm on the following days:

Tuesday 5 April

Wednesday 6 April

Thursday 7 April

Online bookings will go live on Wednesday 23 March. A link to the School-links website appears on the homepage of the school's website:

[www.rangiorahigh.school.nz](http://www.rangiorahigh.school.nz)

Signage on the campus will indicate teachers' locations. We intend to base most staff in B, C, D and F Blocks - near East Belt. Heads of House and Deans of House will be available for interviews.

Please ensure you have a gap between your interview times to allow you time to move around classrooms to your next interview.

## Shoes

Rangiora High School's uniform code stipulates plain black or brown polishable "leather" shoes which lace up or have straps.

Canvas sandshoes, "kung fu" slip-ons and "ballet-type" slip-ons are NOT acceptable.

## Uniform

Thank you for your tolerance when School Tex and its suppliers let us down earlier in the term. This situation seems to have been remedied. School Tex now has sufficient levels of stock.

The uncertain supply of certain uniform items and period of school closure are now over. It is now once again time to wear our uniform well, with pride in all that it represents.

If there are issues of hardship regarding the cost of uniform, please contact Ms Julia Malcolm (Deputy Principal, Student Services) or Mrs Glenda Stanley (Office Manager) at the school office on 03 3118888.

## New Sports' Uniform Range

Modelling some garments from our new Sports Uniform range are (from left to right):

Sarah Hayman - Senior A Netball Dress

Leah Woods - Tennis Top

Peter Donaldson - 1st XV Playing Strip

Brad Moore - Tennis T-shirt

Nigel Gibb - 1st XV Training Gear



## International Students

Rangiora High School held a Homestay picnic on 13 February. This was a great event which enabled our international students and their homestay families to get to know each other.

Ulzija Batsukh, our World Vision scholarship student (pictured below right), leaves at the end of this month. She has had a wonderful year and made huge progress in English. Ulzi is returning to Ulaan Bataar in Mongolia to become a journalist. We wish her well for the future.



## Land-based Studies

Harking back to Term 4 2010, we were excited about the success of our two teams in the Canterbury A & P Show Secondary School Junior Judging and Stock Handling Competition. The teams were first and second overall. Students spent Show Week at Canterbury Park and were trained and mentored by Phillip and Kaye Worthington of Woolstone Lowline Angus Stud at Fernside. Team members were Tegan McNeish, Georgia Davies, Amber Millward, April Donaldson, Emma Kemp, Rebecca Hennessy, Stephanie Whitehouse and Anna Hamilton. Rangiora High School is one of three South Island schools to be chosen to run a New Zealand Primary Industries Trade Academy, using the existing Land Based Studies facilities. Twenty three Year 11 students have been selected for the course which covers pathways into Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry careers. They are going to the Five Star Feedlot and a robotic dairy farm in the Ashburton area later in the term. A special opening of this taskforce programme will be held at the woolshed on the last Wednesday of this term. Two classes of Year 12 Rural Studies students have completed their First Aid and Chainsaw courses, and they are working their way through a large load of logs. Firewood sales have started. If you would like to order firewood, please contact Mrs Glenda Stanley at the school office on 03 3118888.



## Rowing

The South Island Secondary Schools' Rowing Championships were held in Twizel on 12-13 March 2011.

The Rangiora High School team competed in this regatta and achieved some fine results. As they prepare for Maadi Cup at Lake Karapiro at the end of the month, the excitement is building for more successes and personal bests.

The results from Twizel were as follows:

### **Lawson Morris-Whyte**

GOLD U17 Singles

### **Rowan Jackman and Lawson Morris-Whyte**

SILVER U18 Doubles

### **Rowan Jackman**

SILVER U18 Singles

### **Thomas Zahner and Henry Stokes**

SILVER U17 Lightweight Doubles

### **Ben Fisher, Angus Howat, Justis Atkins and Rupert Jackman**

BRONZE U16 Quad

We wish our eight rowers, Michael Pascoe (coxswain), Armin Svoboda (coach) and Yvonne Atkins (manager) an enjoyable and successful regatta.

## Chess

The Chess Club at Rangiora High School is off to a strong start in 2011.

Mr Thomas Tripp in Room C3 is the Teacher-in-Charge of Chess.

We have consistently had 10 to 16 chess players at our Wednesday lunch-time meetings.

The enthusiasm and skill of our chess players has been very impressive.

In addition to the return of our senior veteran players, there has been strong interest amongst our new Year 9 students.

It is great to see student interest across the school, with students from every year group participating.

It is unfortunate that the Ashburton Exchange was cancelled due to the earthquake; we would have been able to field a very strong team this year.

However, we are working to organise inter-school chess competitions between Rangiora High and nearby high schools.

This year is shaping up to be a strong one for Chess at Rangiora High School.

## ***Junior Graduation Programme***

Rangiora High School operates a Junior Graduation Programme aimed at acknowledging the good work and study habits of all Year 9 and 10 students in all Year 9 and 10 classes.

### **What is the Junior Graduation Programme?**

Each term junior students will be assessed on the following tasks in each subject:

- Bookwork (20%)
- Homework (20%)
- Achievement (20%)
- Key Tasks (40%) - two key tasks will be completed in Maths, Science, Social Studies and English over the whole year, and one key task will be completed in all other subjects.

NOTE: The homework criteria will not apply in Year 9 and Year 10 Physical Education and will be replaced with a uniform component.

Students must achieve a minimum of 60% in order to meet the Graduation standard.

If the graduation standard is not met students will be required to attend a week long summer school at the end of the year before being allowed to move on to Year 10 or Year 11.

Students and parents/caregivers will receive regular itemised progress reports throughout the year and have a clear idea whether or not they are doing well in the Junior Graduation Programme.

### **Summer School**

The Summer School will have a graduation standard that will need to be passed. Summer School will take place the week immediately following the end of the school year. Failure to successfully complete Summer School will mean the student will not be allowed to progress to the next year level until he or she has met the standard.

### **Graduation**

Students will receive a Certificate of Graduation for successful completion of Year 9. Those who have scored 75-84% will graduate with Merit. Those scoring 85% or more will graduate with Distinction. Distinction awards will be presented at Junior Prizegiving. Other certificates will be presented at final House assemblies.

### **Why do we have a Junior Graduation Programme?**

Success at school does not just happen. It requires a consistent effort by each student. Year 9 and 10 are the most important years at High School. This is when the knowledge, skills and habits that will give you the best opportunity to be successful at High School are developed. This programme encourages each student to work to the best of his or her ability.

### **Is this going to be difficult?**

No. It is not about how brainy a student may or may not be. It is about completing the tasks set by teachers. It is about you **DOING** the things that assist learning.

### **Who do I talk to if I have questions or need help?**

There is a huge team of people here who are happy to help - subject teachers, form teacher, Peer Support Leaders, Dean and Head of House to just to name a few. All you need to do is ask.

All of the people listed above will be helping you along the way and working hard to give you the best opportunity to succeed. You need to play your part too.

Lesley Elms  
**Junior Academic Dean**

## Fourteen Scholarships in 2010

Rangiora High School congratulates our Scholarship recipients for 2010. Scholarship provides recognition and monetary reward to top academic students in their last year of schooling. Scholarship exams enable candidates to be assessed against challenging standards, and are demanding for the most able candidates in each subject. Nationally, approximately 3% of Year 13 students studying each subject at Level 3 are awarded Scholarship, if they reach the standard set. Nationally, only 0.4% of scholarship candidates (1 in 250) gain an Outstanding Scholarship. All of our Scholarship recipients are studying at the University of Canterbury or the University of Otago in 2011.

Well done to these exceptional young people. Your school is very proud of your achievement.



**William Dieckermann**

Calculus  
Chemistry  
Classical Studies (Outstanding Scholarship)  
Economics



**Sarah Connolly**

Accounting



**Harry Pirie**

Statistics



**Jerome Dufour**

Economics



**Ryan Reed**

Physics



**Luke Hawkins-Bellis**

Physical Education



**Ciaran Searle**

Media Studies



**Sam Hinds**

Calculus



**Chris Schuyt**

Media Studies



**Florence Loader**

Physical Education



**Elliott Smith**

History

## NCEA Results from 2010

Rangiora High School is very pleased with our 2010 NCEA results which show that our senior students achieve at, or above, the national average for similar schools.

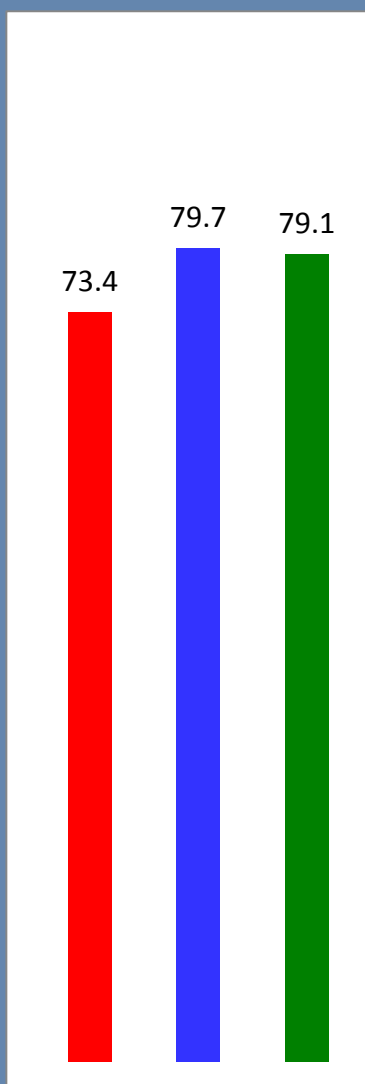
The graphs below show the percentage of students in a year level who gained NCEA at their level in 2010, compared to both the national average of all schools and the national average for decile 8 co-educational schools (that is, schools of a similar type to Rangiora High School).

The **RED** bar shows the national average of all schools.

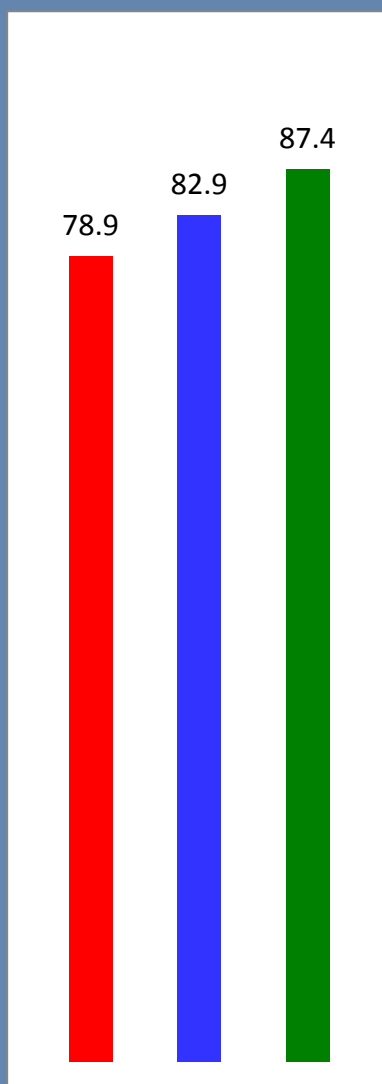
The **BLUE** bar shows the average for decile 8 co-educational schools.

The **GREEN** bar shows Rangiora High School's results.

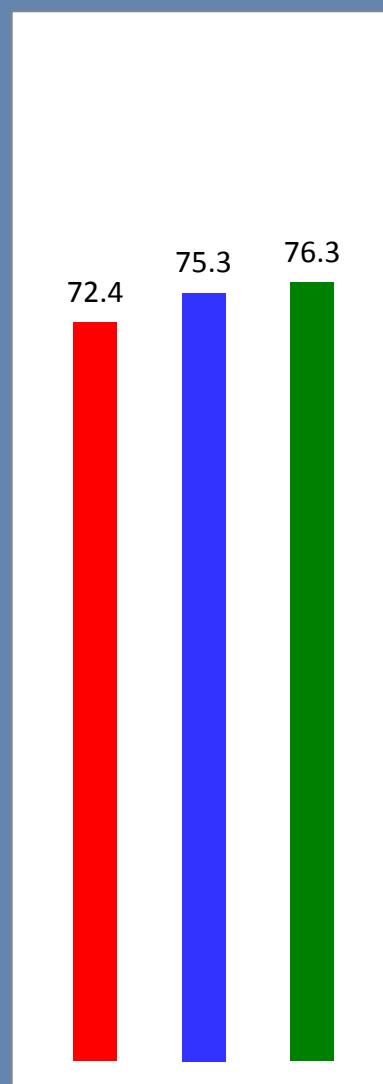
Percentage of Year 11 students gaining NCEA Level 1 in Year 11 in 2010



Percentage of Year 12 students gaining NCEA Level 2 in Year 12 in 2010



Percentage of Year 13 students gaining NCEA Level 3 in Year 13 in 2010



Rangiora High School students also gained University Entrance in Year 13 at a higher rate than the national average: 68.4% of our NCEA Level 3 candidates gained University Entrance in 2010, compared to 64.5% of students in all other schools last year.

Our rates of achievement for NCEA Level 1 Literacy and NCEA Level 1 Numeracy in 2010 are also above the national averages for last year.

Well done to our senior students in 2010. Your NCEA results are a credit to you and your school. Thank you for your efforts last year. We look forward to even more success in 2011.

## Academic Medallists

Congratulations to the 2010 Level 1 and 2 students who had their NCEA certificates endorsed with Excellence (50 or more credits at Excellence).



## Introducing our Head Students for 2011



I'm Michael McRae. I'm Head Boy. Getting to know me is pretty easy. I'm a sporty guy who eats a lot of food and plays Xbox. Simple yeah? When I'm not at school I'm often playing sport. That's a big part of my life. I play football for our local Waimak club, tennis for the best club in North Canterbury (Sefton), with a little bit of netball on the side at Dudley. In years to come I'm going to be studying either Law or Commerce at University and then I'm looking to travel around Europe. I'm quite easy going and usually have a good laugh about things, so come talk to me at school if you see me. I'm generally the one that's a head and shoulders above everyone else.



My name is Renee McDonald. I am Head Girl. I live on a small property in Fernside. I like to be outside, swimming or playing netball or tennis. Although I love to play netball, I also really enjoy umpiring. My favorite place to go on holiday is Lake Benmore in summer. I love being out on the lake in our boat and doing things like knee boarding and water biscuiting. It's also a great place to lay in the sun with a good book! I'm unsure of where I want to go to university next year. I love the idea of having somewhere new to explore but being close to my family would be a bonus. I do, however, know that I want to study Law and Psychology. After university, I'd like to spend some time working overseas in somewhere like London or New York.



Kia Ora. I'm Nick Deerson, Deputy Head Boy. My interests include sports such as cricket, Formula One racing and rugby. I used to play for the North Canterbury Secondary Schools' Cricket Club but have recently taken up Rugby as my new sport. Currently I play for the Saracens Rugby Club and wish to play for school for a second year of rugby. My favourite hobby is playing the guitar which I started in 2007. I also enjoy going to the beach on hot summer days and spending good quality time with friends. For the future I would like to attend University of Canterbury and get a Commerce degree. Accounting is a possible career. After my studies I would love to travel and see the world!



My name is Amanda Clinton and I am Rangiora High School's Deputy Head Girl. I am a keen volleyball and badminton player, representing the school in both these sports. In my spare time I enjoy photography, outdoor activities such as camping and water activities, and youth leadership. I also volunteer at Rangiora Hospital, which is helping me work towards my career goal of becoming a Nurse. I'm looking forward to a number of things this year including the Year 13 ball, completing NCEA Level 3 and making the most of this new and exciting role, while meeting many of you along the way.

## ***Year 12 Physics Field Trip***

On Tuesday 15 February the Year 12 Physics class went to the University of Canterbury. The class also visited Rutherford's Den at the Christchurch Arts Centre. Some students offer their observations on the day:

We learnt about modern physics and radioactivity at the University's Physics Department. At Rutherford's Den we learnt about Rutherford's work during his time at the University.

### **Daniel Crossen**

I now know that cell phones are not radioactive. At Rutherford's Den I was surprised to find that when there were women in the lecture room they had to sit in the front rows.

### **Emma Ball**

At the University we looked at the penetration ability of radioactivity. When we had a sample that had both beta and gamma radiation we used copper to block out the the beta radiation so we could measure the gamma radiation.

### **Levi Collier-Robinson**



## ***School-Links***

Please register with School-Links, our text and email attendance notification and monitoring software.

You can register online with School-links for free. It's an excellent way to keep track of student attendance and school information.

We have found School-links to be an invaluable means of communication with our community.

With School-Links you can:

- Receive text and email alerts for all general communications such as school closures or in the event of an emergency
- Book parent/teacher interviews online (the next interviews will be held on 5-7 April, 2011)
- Receive text and email alerts if your student has not turned up at school
- Receive newsletters and general notices online
- Notify the school of your student's absence 24/7

Registration is free and easy to do. You can register at [www.school-links.org.nz](http://www.school-links.org.nz)

If you require assistance with School-Links, or have any queries, please phone our Attendance Officer, Mrs Leigh Bolton, on 03 311 8888 (extension 2160).

Once registered it is important to regularly check your details are correct by clicking on the My Profile link.

Thank you for your support as we seek to continually improve our attendance monitoring processes.

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