



Rangiora High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Rangiora

Newsletter - September 2010

From the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa, greetings to parents, caregivers and friends of the school. The past month has been exciting. I travelled to Blenheim and Nelson during Tournament Week to support our Girls' Netball and Basketball teams. Like many of our talented teams they played well and achieved excellent results. It is pleasing to note that both these teams will represent the school at Nationals during the next holidays. We wish them the very best of luck!



The last four weeks have been a testing time for our community. The earthquake changed many lives in some quite profound ways. As a school and as a community we were quick to recover, our focus being on supporting each other to return to established routines. We were fortunate to sustain only minimal damage to our administration building. We are grateful to the Ministry of Education who advanced the school \$1.5 million to upgrade and structurally re-strengthen B, C and D Blocks. Had this work not been completed in Term 2, I am sure the damage would have been more significant.



Term 3 has been, for many students, a watershed as far as their achievements are concerned. Many students have realised that their achievement hinges on their ability to focus and apply themselves. The junior graduation programme has seen a significant increase in student focus and achievement. If your son or daughter is a senior student and is not working for at least two hours an evening on homework and assignments, he or she is jeopardizing his or her chances at real success in NCEA.

Senior students studying for the NCEA should realise that their level of achievement this year will have a significant impact of their future life choices. NCEA is a fierce competition and our candidates need to be aware that they are not just competing with the 800 students in the senior school but in fact with the 23,000 NCEA candidates throughout the country. It would be a pity if our best and our brightest were allowed to squander both their potential and talent at this time of the year in the name of social networking and parties. It is up to us as parents, caregivers and educators to insist that school and achievement is the focus at this important time.

Finally there are only a few short weeks left of the school year. Seniors have exam leave in five weeks. Juniors finish in nine weeks. I look forward to celebrating our students' achievements at Graduation, Prize-giving and the Colours event. Remember "it's not how you start, it's how you finish!"

Kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui.

Peggy Burrows
Principal

Textiles Trip: Raffle Results

The raffle results were drawn on 15 September 2010. There were three raffles, each fundraising for the Textiles trip to Wellington.

Coffee and Chocolate Set (Blue)
Ticket 53D - Mrs S Clark

Bumper Grocery Hamper
Ticket 95C - Mrs M Van Der Meer

Coffee and Polka Dot Mugs Set (Red)
Ticket 5B - Ms S Jeffcott

Thanks to all those who supported our fundraising effort.

The Textiles students will travel to Wellington on Wednesday 23 September to attend the World of Wearable Art show.

Karren Knight
Textiles Teacher

GATE Meeting

Rangiora High School would like to invite interested parents and members of the community to a meeting to discuss what our Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) programme might look like in the future.

The format will be a presentation by a guest speaker who specialises in GATE students and their needs followed by group discussions. We want to listen to people's opinions so that we can form a vision for this programme which meets our community's needs.

RANGIORA HIGH SCHOOL

COMMUNITY MEETING on GATE STUDENTS

WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2010

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Rangiora High School Staffroom

Attendance

Please advise us of your student's absence EVERY day they are absent. This can be done either by phoning the school on 03 311 8888 or by going on to www.school-links.org.nz and clicking on the Absence tab. Students who ring themselves in sick will not be marked absent and an electronic notification will go out to caregivers advising of their absence.

If a student is unwell at school they must come to sick bay, even if they have already contacted you to pick them up. You then know where they are and we will then enter their attendance. If they leave without us knowing they will be marked as truant.

If you are going on holiday a letter must be sent to the Principal, Mrs Peggy Burrows, for her approval. Please advise if this is an overseas or New Zealand holiday.

Please advise the school of any change of physical address, telephone/cellphone or email. If your child is hurt and we need to get in contact with you urgently, we must have these details correct.

School-Links

Please register with School-Links if you have not already done so. 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
- 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

Register at www.school-links.org.nz

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.



HILLARY

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr N Moyle

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr A Cotter

Term 3 has been another successful one. Our Arts On team gained first place and our seniors did well in Netball and Football. We have maintained second place and are pushing Ngata hard for first. We also marked the inaugural Hillary climb to celebrate the birthday of Ed Hillary. We wish all Hillary students the very best for their holidays. Senior students must get into a revision programme for their exams. This month, we focus on the sporting achievements of Josh Siu 10HVV and Sheldon Pitama 10HTP in rugby league.

What do you most like about playing rugby league?

Josh – It's a contact sport, physical and keeps you fit.

Sheldon – It's a contact sport that I enjoy playing. It is also a team sport.

What major honours have you won?

Josh – Canterbury league rep in 2009 and 2010.

Sheldon – Canterbury league rep every year since I was 6 years old.

Which team do you play for?

Josh – Northern Bulldogs; U14 Canterbury

Sheldon- Celebration Lions; U14 Canterbury

Have you had any major injuries?

Josh – Broken tail bone, fingers, toes, sprained back

Sheldon – Broken finger

What do you need to further your league potential?

Josh – Commit to it, turn up to training and give 100% in every game.

What is the best piece of advice you have been given by a coach?

Sheldon – Play for the team, always give 100%.



LYDIARD

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr D Palmer

DEAN OF HOUSE Mrs P Graham

Term 3 has rapidly come to an end with the senior students ready for a break before they begin their final examination preparation.

I would suggest that students put their books away for the first week and then begin their build up for the final examinations in approximately six weeks. It is obviously important that they take their books home as access to the school buildings is limited during the holidays.

The highlight of this term would be seeing the look on Pam Bernards' face when she was presented with air tickets and expenses from a staff collection to represent Lydiard House at the Royal Foundation of the Blind's head office in Auckland. Pam is going to talk to the students about her experience next term. Rangiora High School and Lydiard House were mentioned with the other major sponsors.

Our Junior Public speakers of Angus Howat, Georgia Caughey from Year 10 and Harry Vincent and Lucia Newell from Year 9 did a fantastic job with Lucia winning the Year 9 competition. We appreciate the time the students put in with some guidance from Sarah Connolly.

Enjoy your holiday break.





MANSFIELD

HEAD OF HOUSE Mrs M Stephenson

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr A Drayton

James Penrose 10MSN is a very keen competitor in the sport of Karting. Recently, James competed in the National Schools' Championships in Nelson. These are some of his thoughts on this event: I hadn't been to Nelson since I raced in the Cadet class so I had a bit of learning to do. We practiced for two days and made progress. The format was four heats and a final. The heats were all mixed grid so it came down to who could get through the traffic the fastest. All of the races had equal value. All were 15 laps. The Championships allow us to represent our school and get karting recognized in our schools to grow the sport. My class had 28 competitors. I won this event last year in Hawkes Bay so I was looking forward to it. In the 3rd heat, I got off to an alright start then coming into a turn while passing another kart, I had an accident. I ended up over the other side of the fence with my kart upside down on the bags. Three drivers were involved. One of them had to go to hospital. Surprisingly, I was fine. Near the end of the race I started to lose my neck muscles - partly to do with the accident and also the track was very hard on my neck. It was a bad feeling because it became difficult to see. I slipped back to 2nd on the last lap and only just held off 3rd. After all of the racing I started off grid 2 for the final with Josh Drysdale on 1. We were able to control my neck by using a brace. I slipped back to 3rd at the start after getting pushed off the track. I got back up to 2nd and just caught Josh in the final few laps. I was unable to pass Josh and finished 2nd overall. It was a good result in the end considering everything that happened. I also set the fastest lap which is something I can take away. The next big event will be the Annual Blossom Sprint Kart Festival in Hawkes Bay in September.



NGATA

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr R Winson

DEAN OF HOUSE Mrs V Wilkins

The second half of Term 3 has seen Ngata House excel once again. This time was the turn of our junior students who competed against the best of the rest in public speaking. Becky Corby and Matthew Schuyt (pictured with their supporting team) represented Year 9 students, both delivering highly praised speeches. Natasha Commons and Alex Ainsley represented the Year 10 cohort with speeches that were both intelligent and entertaining. The competition was watched by over 100 of their peers and teachers. Ngata House gained second equal overall with Natasha being awarded best speaker of the day for her speech on "Creativity is a thing of the past!" Credit should also be given to the support teams who helped each speaker prepare for these speeches. Ngata House is in good hands with these young people as our future!

While the juniors got their thinking caps on the Year 13 students have been letting loose with 'Wacky Week'. Each day has a dress up theme from 'Bad Taste' (pictured here) to 'Heroes and Villains'. It has been great to see the effort and thought that has gone into these costumes. Rangiora High School has never seen so many capes, wigs and lycra.

We are now looking forward to the staff teams taking on the winning teams from Winterfest at football and netball. Ngata House will be there in force providing the Netball team and fund raising by selling ice-creams and cup cakes to the masses, with green icing of course! Have a great Spring break.





RUTHERFORD

HEAD OF HOUSE Mrs S Reed

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr M Williams

Rutherford has continued to make a concerted effort to do well this term. The seniors have NCEA exams soon. We wish them all the best with their final hurdles. The juniors' turn will be next term when they will be tested on their recall for the whole year in various subjects. Rutherford students have continued to be actively participating in all areas of sporting and House events this term. We have had many successes with the equestrian team largely made up of Rutherford students coming away with the Jane Sullivan Trophy for Horse Trials. The team comprised of the following Rutherfordians: Courtney Davis, Nicole Chapman, Zoe McVicar and Amy McCartin. Courtney and Zoe were also in the winning team in March and Nicole was in the 2nd placed Show Jumping Team. Rutherfordian talent and success has also seen Jacob Lewis represent New Zealand in the 125cc Motor Bike GP in Spain. He has worked very hard to achieve to this level. We are proud of him. Luke Hawkins-Belliss has just completed competing in the South Island Secondary School Ski Championships with a team in Wanaka. The teams were all very competitive and against a number of highly trained and skilled students. The team managed a third place in the Mixed Ski category. Our team in the annual Junior Public Speaking did well to maintain our third position in the House ranking. The team consisted of Nathan Hunt, Charlotte Flay, Lemuel Hill and Mary Goulding. Nathan also took out the winner for best Year 10 boy speaker. Well done. We look forward to celebrating more success at the end of the year. There are so many in the House who have stepped up and made our job so enjoyable and worthwhile. Our measure of success is you!



SHEPPARD

HEAD OF HOUSE Ms A Hay

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr K Anderson

Sheppard House has many talented students who have gained success and recognition in their field of interest. One amazing young woman shares her story.... I'm Tess Stephen and my passion in life is music. I play guitar, sing and love to be on stage. This year has been an amazing year for me and my music career. I entered Smokefree Rockquest (a nationwide band competition to find new talent) as a singer/songwriter soloist. This competition involves writing and performing an original piece of music. I was lucky enough to make it to the next round of the competition, being chosen from 80 others. This meant I had to write another song and had seven minutes to wow the audience at the beautiful Isaac Theatre Royal. From this event, I won the award of Smokefree Rockquest's Women's Musicianship and \$150 towards my music career. I am no longer in the final competition, but I have a chance to be in to win the National Women's Musicianship award at the National Final in September. Being in this competition has built a great performing foundation for me and I am slowly but surely doing all I can to improve, write more music and get gigs. Another big event for me was recording my recent songs for the first time in a studio, getting the feel for it and producing two amazing tracks. With school performance opportunities, leading in House choir and learning technique with a special mentoring session, I have really grown as a performer in the past six months. Growing up around a musical family, my dream is to be heard, and I want to thank my manager, Tammy Shearer-Maule for being with me the whole way. Thank you everyone for all your love and support. Never give up on your dream, I haven't.



Canoe Polo

This has been a year of outstanding successes. The Open Grade team went through its round robin competition undefeated but failed at the final hurdle to finish third in the Canterbury schools' competition. Our B Grade team did the same, staying undefeated in its competition until the semis, this team also finishing third.

From there most of these players completed in the South Island Secondary Schools' tournament. Our Open Grade boys' team lost just the one game during this tournament, this being the final. Our Open grade girls' team lost a close final also, having beaten every other team in its competition. At this tournament our girls also picked up the trophy as Canterbury Secondary Schools' champions, a title we have now won 5 of the last 6 years. All players performed superbly throughout the season. Our silver medallist teams at the South Island Championships included the following players:

Open Grade Boys

Owain John, Luke Hawkins-Bellis, Scott Edwards, Josh Moore, Joe Hughes, Claudio Schill

Open Grade Girls

Emma Wood, Leah Wood, Jess Ross, Chelsea Sanderson Stephanie De Hamel, Carina Schill, Petra Sparks,

Emma Wood and Zac Norris also played in the Open Grade through the Canterbury Secondary Schools' competition, whilst Bruce McKenzie and Sean Roche turned out for our B Grade team during the Canterbury schools' competition. In recognition of their strength and ability the following players were also successful in gaining representation in Canterbury/Mainland teams to compete at the upcoming National championships.

Emma Wood - U21 team

Jess Ross - U21 team

Stephanie de Hamel - U18 team

Carina Schill - U18 team

Leah Wood - U18 team

Chelsea Sanderson - U18 team

Petra Sparks - U18 team

Owain John - U18 team

All of the above mentioned players deserve to be acknowledged for their successes this year.

Russell Henson

Manager / Coach



Equestrian News

Rangiora High School's Gold One Day Event team won the Jane Sullivan Trophy at McLean's Island on 28 August. There were twenty four teams competing.

Nicole Chapman, Courtney Davis, Zoe McVicar and Amy McCartin were second after the dressage phase and clinched first place by being the only team to finish on their dressage score. This was a great follow-up to Rangiora High School teams coming first and second in the Interschool Show Jumping back in March.

Kyra Jamie rode for a composite team which finished seventh, and the green team of Georgia Davies, Scott Snell, Jess Douglas Withers and Mikaela Davidson finished thirteenth after a very creditable fifth place after the dressage.

There is an interschool polo competition at Waireka at the end of November and students are encouraged to put their names forward for inter school dressage which will be held at the beginning of March 2011.

Best wishes to all those riders heading to Invercargill for Springston Trophy in the school holidays.

Tournament Week

This year's Tournament Week was a great success for Rangiora High School. The teams involved all played to the best of their abilities and were extremely positive representatives of our school. Most of our sports were based locally but we also had teams competing in the top of the South Island.

Special mention must be made for the success of our Senior Girls' A Basketball and A Netball teams, who have both qualified for nationals. This is the first time a Netball team has reached this level. Both national tournaments will be held during the holidays in Palmerston North and New Plymouth respectively. We wish the girls and their management teams all the best.

- Basketball Girls' - 6th South Island
- Basketball Boys' - 13th South Island
- Football Boys' - 2nd Linwood Cup
- Hockey Girls' - 2nd Nunweek Tournament
- Netball - 2nd South Island
- Rugby 10's Girls' - 7th
- Rugby 10's Boys' - 1st
- Rugby Boys' U15 - 7th South Island

Thank you and well done to all involved.

Andrew Gebbie

Head of Sport



Upcoming Events

11 October	Term 4 begins
20 October	PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
28 October	Mufti Day (subject to change)
28 October	BOT Meeting, 6.30pm
29 October	Junior Work Day
29 October	Year 8 Orientation Day / Testing
1 November	Colours Evening, 7.00pm
8 November	House Farewell Assemblies
9 November	Last Day for Year 13 (except TOP students)
10 November	Last Day for Year 11-12 students (except TOP students)
10 November	Senior Prizegiving, 7.00pm
11 November	NCEA examinations commence
17 November	PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
25 November	BOT Meeting, 6.30pm
1 December	Year 13 Graduation, 7.00pm
3 December	Last day for TOP students
8 December	Last Day for Year 9-10 students
9 December	Junior Prizegiving, 12.30pm

Model UN General Assembly

The day was a huge success. We had been planning it for months and we eagerly looked forward to the day.



Everyone got right into it. Costumes were great, from Jamaican Rastas to Indian saris. Tables were decorated with items depicting each country's culture. The debate was excellent. Topics from the rights of indigenous people to nuclear proliferation were debated thoroughly by eager delegates. The best speaker award on the day went to the United Arab Emirates delegate, Holly Diepraam.

Thanks to all who contributed to this great day. The Baptist Church youth workers for providing the venue, Rangiora New Life who sent a delegation of fifteen students, Mr Henson who provided so many resources, the conference assistants and the coordinators, Ryan Reed, Jason Goldsworthy, William Diekermann, and Ciaran Searle.

Hamish Ainsley
Student Organiser

Emma Woods

Our congratulations go to Emma Woods, 13LRH, who has once again been selected for the New Zealand National Secondary Schools' Brass Band. The Band is selected from the best secondary school players available for each instrument. Participants will be able to excel with the best brass players in New Zealand. Emma started learning the Euphonium in Year 7 at Ashgrove School and has continued her lessons with the itinerant music teacher scheme at RHS. After achieving 3rd place in the Junior Euphonium section of the National Brass Bands' Solo Competition Emma auditioned for the Secondary Schools' Band and won the position of principal euphonium. This is the second consecutive year Emma has won this position, a wonderful achievement in a very competitive environment.



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