



LYNFIELD
COLLEGE

NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 15 | 12 September 2025

From Tumuaki Cath Knell

He aha te mea nui o te ao

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

What is the most important thing in the world?

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

Kia ora koutou

The end of Term 3 is always a busy, but somewhat stressful, time for our senior students with the past 2 weeks having been packed full of assessment opportunities. It was encouraging to see and hear how seriously, overall, students were taking these. This included our Year 11 students who were really impressive in delivering their speeches as part of the Level 2 English standard they have been working on.

Students in Year 12 and 13 that I spoke with today were able to identify which subjects they will be concentrating on during their rostered home day on Monday 15 September, due to the Rolling Strike action, now that this has been confirmed. Unless a resolution between PPTA and the Government is reached, Year 11 students will be rostered home on Tuesday, Year 10 on Wednesday and Year 9 on Thursday. Non-union staff will be available to provide supervision for any Year 9 students needing this on Thursday. Information on how to register your child will be emailed next week.

Thank you for voting

We look forward to the release of the **School Board** election results next week. The new School Board will have a busy time ahead starting with a combined Kāhui Ako **'Welcome on Board'** induction session run by NZSBA in the first week of Term 4.

Our students are currently running a similar election process next week for positions on the Leadership team for 2026. A somewhat nerve wracking time for those standing, we look forward to our students identifying and voting for those with Leadership skills who will represent and serve the student body to the best of their ability.

Consultation on NCEA - have your say! Feedback closes 5pm Monday 15 September

A reminder that consultation on NCEA closes on 15 September at 5pm. I strongly encourage those who understand NCEA the best - the parents who have had children go through NCEA, and the students who are currently sitting or who have previously sat NCEA, to take the time to add their feedback. [LINK TO SURVEY](#)

Is your child making safe decisions?

At Lynfield College we place a strong emphasis on our Korowai value **Hinengaro wawata** – **thinking critically** and making safe, positive decisions. Recently, we have had to spend time with students and whānau because some students have not demonstrated this value in their choices. We want to be very clear: **there is no place for violence at Lynfield College**. This includes play or pre-arranged fights, and posting offensive or threatening messages online. Every student deserves to feel safe and respected – **Manaakitanga** – **we are respectful**.

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COMING EVENTS

Sunday 14 – Saturday 20 Sep

WIKI O TE REO MAORI

MONDAY 15 – THURSDAY 18

SEPTEMBER

PPTA ROLLING STRIKE

ROSTERING HOME

Friday 19 September

TERM 3 ENDS

Monday 6 October

TERM 4 BEGINS

We ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home. Please talk with your child about the importance of making safe and respectful decisions, both at school and online. While we work through the consequences here at school, your partnership in guiding our young people is essential to keeping our community safe.

Last week of the term

We wish our team of 40+ students heading down to Tauranga tomorrow for the Kiwibots VEX Robotics Scrimmage at Ōtūmoetai College all the very best as well as our Curling team competing at the Nationals in Naseby in the first weekend of the holidays. To everyone else a safe and relaxing and/or productive break. Term 4 begins Monday 6 October.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

Alumni News

LYNFIELD COLLEGE AT THE WORLD ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

It is a big week ahead for ex student **Maddison-Lee Wesche**, who attended Lynfield College from 2013 to 2017. She is currently preparing to compete at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, starting this weekend. Maddison will take part in the Women's Shot Put on **Saturday 20th September**, with qualifying at around 1pm (NZ time) and the final scheduled for 11pm that night.

Maddi is of course no stranger to success at this level. She has consistently reached finals in major international meets and is regarded as one of New Zealand's brightest medal hopes at these Championships. We still remember Maddi's outstanding performance at the Paris Olympic Games last year, where she brought home a silver medal for New Zealand – a moment of immense pride for her whānau, and our school.

We wish Maddi all the very best and look forward to watching her compete on the world stage again. Coverage of her event can be followed through the World Athletics website: worldathletics.org/worldathletics-plus



Health Notice

We've been informed that there is possibly chickenpox in the wider community.

Chickenpox is not a notifiable disease, but is very contagious.

Chickenpox causes itchy, fluid filled blisters on the skin.

For more information see: <https://info.health.nz/conditions-treatments/infectious-diseases/chickenpox>

Or <https://healthify.nz/health-a-z/c/chickenpox>

If you develop symptoms of chickenpox, please check with your Primary Health Care provider or General Practitioner, or seek advice from Healthline 0800 611 116, before coming to school.

Nurses Jen and Francie

Science Fair

On the 29th of August, nine of our students proudly represented our school at the 2025 NIWA Science Fair after months of preparation, experimentation, and research. This annual event brings together over 22 schools, more than 300 students, and around 200 projects. It is a demanding day, with judges thoroughly evaluating each project and interviewing participants before reaching their final decisions. Our students rose to the challenge and achieved outstanding success, collectively winning \$1200 in cash prizes. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the dedication they showed throughout this journey. We hope to see even more of our students take part in 2026, with the potential for even greater success.

Congratulations to our prize winners:

Mahe Chaudhary, Manha Mirza Sadat, Ranna Tanvi, Isaac Sun, Kira Treanor

Highly Commended:

Saira Unni

Jogi Deyyani

Aarush Duvvuri



Year 11 Speeches

Our Year 11 students have been practising the skills of telling stories and public speaking in Life Skills. This week, they have presented their speeches as part of a Level 2 English assessment (usually for Year 12 students). The markers have been very impressed with the efforts the students have put into crafting their speeches, many of them drawing on their own experiences of moving schools and countries, breaking bones, travelling, and being grateful for the people in their lives. We are very fortunate to have such ambitious and supportive students, who encouraged each other to present to a high level.

A Buzzing Visit for 9IL

As part of our sustainability studies this term, we were lucky to host Ken Brown from the Auckland Bee Society, who shared his knowledge about the importance of bees in keeping our ecosystems thriving.

Ken arrived fully kitted out in his beekeeper suit and brought along a real beehive (without the bees!) for students to explore. He explained how bees work together, their vital role in pollination and food production, and even shared some of their more humorous and quirky behaviours.

The visit gave students a deeper appreciation of how important bees are for both our environment and everyday lives, linking perfectly to our current classroom learning. It was a truly engaging session that left students buzzing with new knowledge! <http://www.aucklandbeekeepersclub.org.nz>



D-Café Drinks Spectacular – Term 4, 2025

The D-Café Drinks Spectacular is back for Term 4, Weeks 1 and 2. Our talented 3HOB students have been busy designing a line-up of special drinks, each with a unique flavour twist inspired by this year's theme: *Alice in Wonderland*.

Adding to the fun, our D-Café team will be serving drinks with a *Wonderland* touch of face paint, thanks to the creative skills of Ms Matheson's 2PCC Beauty students.

✦ Every day will feature a different magical flavour, available for just \$4 each. Be quick – these always sell out fast!

A huge thank you to our loyal customers for supporting the 3HOB students as they gain valuable barista experience and work towards achieving their Level 3 Barista Unit Standard.

After this special event, the D-Café will close for the year – so don't miss your last chance to enjoy these amazing creations!



Engagement and Progress Reports

Due to exams and assessments taking place in Weeks 8 and 9, Engagement and Progress Reports will be delayed until the end of Week 10. This is to allow teachers to complete marking exam papers and provide up to date academic progress information to parents and caregivers.

International Students Visit Piritahi Marae, Waiheke Island

Last week, our international students had the wonderful opportunity to visit Piritahi Marae on Waiheke Island. The day began early with a journey by bus, train, and ferry.

At the marae, the students were warmly welcomed with a pōwhiri, where Giorgio Guicciardi (Italy) proudly spoke on behalf of his peers and Lynfield College. Throughout the morning, students deepened their understanding of Māori culture, traditions, and the history of the marae. A particular highlight was learning two new waiata and an action song, which they embraced with great enthusiasm.

In the afternoon, the group explored Waiheke Village, enjoying a short walk through the local shops and soaking up the island's relaxed atmosphere before making their way back to Auckland.

The trip was a wonderful blend of learning, fun, and cultural connection.

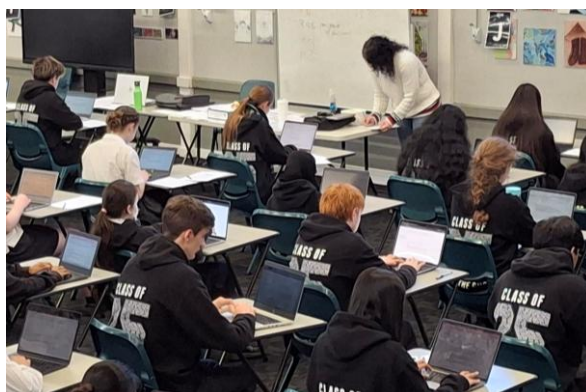


Assessment / Exam Weeks

Weeks 8 and 9 were an extremely busy time for our Year 12 and 13 students as they sat derived grade practice exams or attended practical assessment workshops. Practice exams give students an opportunity to identify gaps in their learning before the external NCEA exams in November. Most students were well organised and prepared. However, this is a timely reminder that students need to arrive 10-15 minutes before an exam begins, ensure they have all the equipment they require (including a charged laptop if sitting a digital exam) and follow the instructions given by supervisors. NZQA have very strict rules around exams and students can potentially lose grades if they are caught breaching assessment rules.



Note: A derived grade is only provisional and can only be applied for should a student have a valid reason. The final decision is one NZQA makes and is only confirmed in January when results are released.



Individual Sports Honours

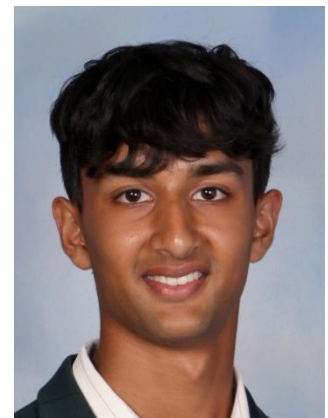
ASHWIN GUPTA, YEAR 13

Ashwin has been selected to represent Auckland at the Junior Squash Nationals from 26th – 30th September, held at the Henderson Squash Club. Congratulations Ashwin on your selection, we look forward to seeing how the competition goes.



SHIV PATEL YEAR 13

Shiv is a very talented Cricketer and has recently been selected as a part of the Western Hub U19 Regional Development Programme. This programme began on the 23rd of August and will continue until the 11th of October. In this time, Shiv will be attending workshops around Strength and Conditioning and Nutrition. An incredible opportunity for Shiv and we look forward to seeing his progress through this programme.



RAJAL SHARMA YEAR 12

Rajal Sharma (12V NK) won Gold in the U18 Compound Men's division at the 2025 National Indoor Archery Championships held in Palmerston North on 16 & 17 August. As well as this, Rajal was also presented with his Jersey on the 29th of August for the upcoming Trans-Tasman Challenge where he will be competing for New Zealand in the U18 Compound Division. Congratulations Rajal!



If your son and/or daughter has achieved representative status (Auckland or NZ) or has competed in such events the Sports Office would very much like to hear about this. Please either ask them to bring proof of the team they made/ level they achieved (e.g. certificate, letter of selection, etc) so we have the exact wording of their achievement, or email these details to sport@lynfield.school.nz

Sports Scene

FESTIVAL AWARDS EVENING

Our annual Sport, Arts and Culture prizegiving is to be held on Tuesday 14th October. This will be held in our school hall. More details to follow.

TEAM TALK

NZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS WINTER TOURNAMENT WEEK

The winter sports season wrapped up with NZSS Tournament Week (24 August - 29 August). This year 7 Lynfield teams competed in various tournaments, playing schools from all over NZ.

The experience for the players is far greater than just the time actually playing the games. It is a unique and invaluable opportunity for many of our best sportspeople to be part of the intensity of a top-level competition, day in, day out for a week and also to share the highs, lows and fun with other like-minded players and school mates. There were several Y9 and 10 students in our teams which sets their teams up well for the future.

Every one of our players represented our school with pride and determination to give their best, 100% of the time they were on the field/court/turf/ice. Every one of our teams learned so much - about their skill sets, game play and themselves.

Very special thanks to all the coaches and other adults involved. Without these dedicated people our teams would never have had this experience. Then there were the supporters who travelled to watch and support from the sideline...thank you so much – the players and coaches really appreciated it.

This year's tournament results were:

Premier 1 Netball 20th in Upper North Island Secondary Schools B grade (116 schools competed in total)

Curling Purple Iguanas 7th in North Island Secondary Schools champs

1st XI Girls Football 10th in Grant Jarvis tournament (31 teams competed at Hamilton)

1st XI Boys Football 11th in Rex Dawkins tournament (15 teams competed in Whangarei)

1st XI Boys Hockey 12th in Olympic Stick tournament (17 teams competed in North Harbour)

1st XI Girls Hockey 18th in Mary Clinton tournament (21 teams competed in Whangarei)



NZSS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This term, we were fortunate enough to have 2 students represent Lynfield College in New Zealand Secondary School Championships for their chosen sports.

Year 13 student **John Wu** is an extremely talented Table Tennis athlete. Going into the tournament John was the 2nd seeded player in the competition held in Hamilton on the 27th of August. John played and won 5 matches to make the final where he unfortunately went down 3-1 in a best of 5 to the No. 1 seeded player.

We are extremely proud of John's performance and achievement at this tournament, coming away with a **Silver medal** is an incredible result!



Year 10 student **Llewellyn Butcher** is in his first year at Lynfield College. Llewellyn's chosen sport is Weightlifting and he competed in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Weightlifting Championships on 6th September in Papatoetoe. He competed in the Under 15 < 110kg category and **finished on top of the weight class**. Lifting 75kg in the Snatch and a PB of 101kg in the Clean and Jerk for a 176kg Total.

Congratulations Llewellyn on your awesome performance and personal best. We look forward to seeing where your career takes you next.



THANK YOU FROM OUR NETBALL UNISS TEAM

Thank you to our Premier 1 Netball major sponsor **Barfoot & Thompson, Blockhouse Bay**.

And thank you to the sponsors of our fundraising raffle:

Smiths Sports Shoes

Maungakiekie Golf Club

Hatwork Outlet Store, Avondale

Bay Hair Design & Beauty, Blockhouse Bay

Fade O'Clock, Blockhouse Bay

Floriculture, Blockhouse Bay



All of your help has made a massive difference in allowing our girls to play in the UNISS tournament this year and we greatly appreciate your support.

WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

Now that we have come to the end of our Winter Sports Season, We just wanted to extend a massive thank you to all students, staff, parents and community members who were involved in any way with providing a fun and competitive Winter Sports season for our students. We are extremely grateful for all our volunteers (coaches, managers and drivers) who are involved with our sports teams. Our teams simply would not be able to function without your support so massive thanks to all of you.

In terms of results, we have had **9 teams place in the top 3 of their grades this winter!**

Congratulations to the teams below for their achievements:

Basketball

Basketball U17 Gold - 1st in Central West U17B

Basketball U15 Gold - 1st in Central West Jnr C

Football

Football Jnr Premier Boys - 1st in 15A2 Grade

Football Junior Gold Boys - 3rd in 14B West Grade

Hockey

Hockey 1st XI Girls - 3rd in C Grade

Netball

Netball Premier 1 - 2nd in Prem 2 Grade

Netball Premier 2 - 2nd in Senior B Grade

Netball 9 Gold - 1st in 9B Grade

Squash

Squash Open A Boys - 1st in Open A Grade

SUMMER SPORT

Sign-ups are underway for junior summer sports – Volleyball. Any queries please come to the Sports Office. Competitions for these teams begin early next term and are held at local venues. We can only enter teams in these competitions if we have coaches. At present we still need coaches for some of these sports. *Are you able to help? Do you know anyone who would be a suitable coach for one of these junior teams? If so please contact us sport@lynfield.school.nz*

UNIFORM RETURN

With all winter sports now finished for the year please return all sports uniforms to the Sports Office by the end of the term. As per the permission slips approved at the beginning of the season, any damaged or lost uniform will need to be replaced and thus a Uniform Replacement Fee will need to be paid.



The Athlete's Foot School Rewards

Shop with The Athlete's Foot this Back-To-School Season and your school can be donated \$10 for EVERY pair sold!

SHOP YOUR WAY

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- APPOINTMENT BOOKING 
- VIRTUAL QUEUING 



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Uniform & Stationery Shop

HOURS

The Uniform and Stationery shop is open to all students on site for their uniform and stationery needs during interval and lunchtime Mondays to Thursdays, and on Fridays before school at 8am and interval.

We are not open on Saturday and Sunday, Teacher Only Days or the between term holidays.

Parents can attend the shop at the following times:

Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 12.00pm and 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Friday 8.00am – 11.30am

SECOND HAND CLOTHING

The Uniform and Stationery Shop also sells second hand items. We ask that if you wish to purchase the second hand items, you do not come during student's morning tea or lunchtimes.

Please be aware that we do not have the full size range in the second hand items. Proceeds from secondhand uniform sales go to our hardship fund to support students in need.

LYNFIELD COLLEGE BLAZER

The Lynfield College blazer is available to all students. The cost is \$260 and it can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. We only have a few available in each size at the moment, but if we have high demand, more stock can be brought in.

ONLINE ORDERING

Online ordering is available through our website <https://lynfield.school.nz/shop.html>. Payment can be made by direct credit or credit card and students onsite are able to collect the items from the shop during the above times. Orders are usually ready the next day.

Returns Policy: We require a purchase receipt, tags and the skirt "runner stitch" to still be in garments to process returns. Please be aware that we can only return items up to 90 days from the date on your receipt.

LOST PROPERTY

If your child has lost uniform items, please ask them to check the Lost Property bin outside the uniform shop.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NAME YOUR UNIFORM.