



LYNFIELD
COLLEGE

NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 11 | 18 JULY 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

With the start of a new term our focus shifts to another of our Korowai of Values, **Hingengaro wawata**. This week it is taking the form of ***we are creative - I use my imagination to come up with new and exciting ideas***. Our students are certainly demonstrating their creativity at the **Mt Roskill Art Showcase 2025**, which runs from Thursday 17 July to Sunday 20 July 2025 at the Lynfield Youth & Leisure Centre as well as at the **Auckland Jazz and Blues Festival** held at the Birkenhead RSA 12-4pm this Saturday 19 July. We encourage you to take the opportunity to see our student talent and creativity on display.

Assessments

Our Year 12 and 13 students have a very busy term ahead with practice assessments being scheduled for weeks 8 and 9. These are such important opportunities as should a derived grade be needed due to an unexpected illness / bereavement during the externals, their grade will be taken from the practice assessment held under exam conditions. These students now only have **50** teaching days left before they go on study leave to prepare for and sit NCEA externals.

Course Selection

August is course selection month at Lynfield. To help whānau have productive conversations with their child a Course Selection Evening is being held on Tuesday 29 July for parents of students currently in Years 10, 11 and 12. Further support will be provided during the Parent Student Teacher (PST) conferences on Thursday 8 and Friday 9 August.

Representation on the School Board

A call for nominations has now been sent to all eligible voters on the school electoral roll. Being such a diverse school we are looking for the Board to represent our community and for our families to feel confident that decisions are being made in the best interests of the students and their learning. The NZ School Boards Association (NZSBA) has prepared a promotional video for prospective Board members.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

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COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 22 July
ENROLMENT OPEN EVENING
6.00pm, meet in the Hall
Thursday 24 &
Friday 25 July
SCHOOL IN ACTION TOURS
11.30am – 1.00pm, Hall
Tuesday 29 July
PISA Testing
Course Selection Parent
Evening, Hall
Current Y10 5.30pm
Current Y11 and 12 6.00pm
Thursday 7 August
PSTs 1.00 – 7.00pm
TALANOA 5.30 – 7.00pm
Friday 8 August
PSTs 9.00am – 1.00pm

Lynfield College Alumni News

JACKIE DE PONT

Jackie de Pont (Class of 2018) is currently pursuing her Masters degree in Translation, Communication and Languages Technologies at the University of Heidelberg. She is set to graduate in October, upon completion of her Masters thesis on the translation of NZ Māori literature into German. Shortly after, on November 4th, her first full-length translation will be published with Verso Books in London. "Hate: The Uses of a Powerful Emotion" is a political philosophy book by best-selling Turkish-Kurdish-German author Şeyda Kurt. The book tackles how emotions can be used to inspire change, positioning Hate as an antithesis to indifference and an emotion with great revolutionary potential.

<https://www.versobooks.com/products/3306-hate?srsId=AfmBOorGuEKsbl3QgovfK-EH5vuCCp5EN3wBN4EXWyGRztHlBfCbJwwg>

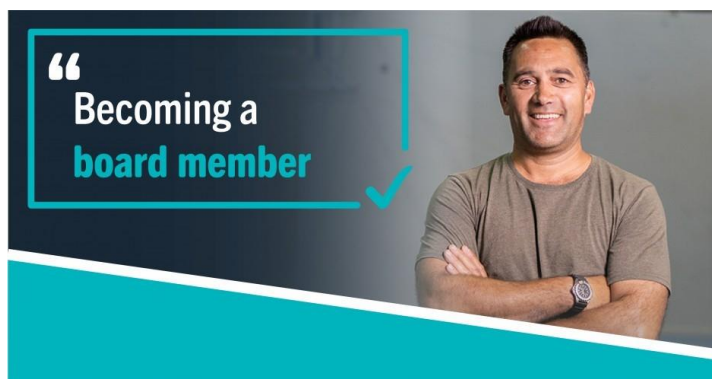
Her journey wall started back in year 9 German class with Heike Zimmer. She started learning German, as many students do, just to 'try it out', but quickly fell in love with the language. The Werder exchange in 2017 organised by Heike Zimmer ended up being a life-changing experience for Jackie, and with Heike's support, she went on to win several scholarships and to pursue linguistics and German literature at the University of Auckland. After gaining her C2 qualification in German in 2022, eight years after her first encounter with German, Jackie was accepted to the University of Heidelberg, where she is now studying.

Jackie still has fond memories and very close ties to the school, maintaining a close relationship with Heike Zimmer, regularly visiting Lynfield to see her dad Paul de Pont, who works in the Learning Support department, our current German teacher Mirjam Wradatsch, and her close friend Kieren Chhiba, Sports Department (also class of 2018). She couldn't be more proud that German is still going strong at Lynfield, and that Lynfielders are still getting the opportunity to broaden their horizons and foster new connections in Germany. She will be returning to New Zealand at the end of this year to continue her work as a professional translator.



School Board Elections

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?
THIS YEAR IS ELECTION YEAR.**



NOMINATIONS WILL BE SOUGHT IN JULY AND CLOSE 12.00PM WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST.

For more information <https://www.schoolboardelections.org.nz/becoming-a-board-member/>

Production 2025 – Chicago: Teen Edition

Huge congratulations to the talented cast and crew of *Chicago: Teen Edition*! After two terms of dedication and creativity, they delivered four outstanding performances to close out the term. A big thank you to all the friends, whānau, and community members who came along and supported — your energy made it even more special!



Lynfield College Ball

On the evening of 11th July, Lynfield College's Year 12 and Year 13 students stepped into a world of enchantment at the Ellerslie Event centre for our 2025 school Ball. With the theme *Arabian Nights*, the venue was transformed to a magical oasis, complete with rich, vibrant decorations, sparkling lights, and a warm, inviting atmosphere. The DJ's energy was kept at an all time high, mixing the dance floor with classic hits and crowd favourites - while delicious food which fuelled everyone for a night full of dancing and laughter. It was a night of celebration, unforgettable memories, and the perfect way to bring Lynfield College's senior students together for one of the most anticipated events of the year.

A huge thank you to the Ball Committee who worked so hard to ensure the Ball was so successful - Aneisha Pathak, Bachir Farchakh, John Mahe, Ateliana Manuha'apai, Jessica Sor, Bill Xie and Aziz Mookhtiar.



Lynfield Students Ace University of Waikato Unistart Programme

This year we had opportunity to collaborate with University of Waikato for the Unistart programme offering students the chance to experience tertiary-level study while still at school. Six of our students enrolled in the first-year Computer Science 101 paper, and we are thrilled to share that all six achieved A+ grades. The students were Harry Baker, Arnav Kumar, Jerry Li, Nicolas Martens, Selena Surendran and Bill Xie. This is an exceptional achievement, and we commend these students for their hard work, commitment, and academic success.



Auckland Academic Awards Night

ZARA QURESHI

This Academic Awards Night recognised students from diverse ethnic backgrounds who performed highly in their academic studies

In partnership with ARCC (Aotearoa Resettled Community Coalition), the Ministry of Education's Community Partnerships Team acknowledged students from diverse ethnic backgrounds in Auckland secondary schools.

An outstanding student both academically and in her leadership role as our Deputy Head Girl in 2024, Zara was worthy of this acknowledgement. Achieving highly in NCEA Level 3, gaining a Scholarship in Biology and being awarded a University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship. Zara is currently pursuing a career in medical science.



Students Farewell Mr Duncan Smith, Acting Faculty Leader Health & PE

Kia ora koutou,

Today, we gather to celebrate someone who's not just been a teacher, but a guide, a mentor, and a friend most of the time. Mr Smith.

For those of you who don't know Mr. Smith or only know him as that grumpy old teacher, let me tell you a little bit about him. Behind that serious face is someone that truly cares about the students. He might not always hand out compliments, and his idea of fun might include a 4 to 6 hour walk in the rain, but once you've had him as a teacher you understand.

Mr Smith, you've taught us more than how to read a map, light a stove, and how to put up a tent, you've taught us how to challenge ourselves, how to lead, and how to work as a team.

You've helped us see that learning doesn't always need four walls and a whiteboard.

As you head off on your next adventure, we just want to say thank you. Thank you for the laughs, the lessons, and the life skills. Thank you for putting up with me as one of your students. We hope wherever you go, you keep doing what you do best – inspiring others, just like you inspired us.

Mr Smith we leave you with this

"He tangata ako ana i te mātauranga, he tangata rangatira. The person who is taught knowledge becomes noble."

Farewell Mr Smith we wish you all the best.

By Galaxy Karepa-Ross, Year 12



Course Selection for 2026

For the next four weeks there is a focus on course selection for 2026. This is involving presentations in assemblies, support and work in Hui mai, the upcoming PST conferences and a Course Selection evening for parents on Tuesday 29 July for current Year 10, 11 and 12 students.

The course selection evening starts in the Hall and provides parents with information shared by our careers and academic advisors during assemblies and then the ability to speak with some subject experts (Faculty Leaders) in the staffroom. Year 10 parents start at 5.30pm, Year 11 and 12 at 6.00pm. Information about this evening will be sent out closer to the time.

More information about courses at Lynfield College can be found <https://lynfield.bridge.school.nz/sites/course-information/25/101>

Literacy and Numeracy Exam Results

NZQA has released results for the Reading, Writing and Numeracy (LITNUM) assessments that many students sat in Term 1. Students can access their results through the MyNZQA learner login.

Term 3 Parent Student Teacher (PSTs) Conferences

Parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to meet their child's Hui mai teacher again at our Term 3 Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences. These meetings will be held on **Thursday 7 August (1pm to 7pm) and Friday 8 August (9am to 1pm)**. The focus of the meetings will be academic progress and course selection. Bookings will be made through Schoolpoint and **open on Friday 25 July at 3pm and close on Wednesday 6 August at 3pm**. Instructions will be shared with parents/caregivers via email at the end of Week 2.

Talanoa Evening

On the **Thursday night of PSTs, 7 August, between 5.30 and 7pm**, a **Talanoa** will be held in C103 for parents and caregivers of **Year 11- 13 Pasifika students**. This will be an opportunity to hear from our Academic Adviser about scholarships on offer, our Careers Advisor about career choices and for parents and caregivers to talanoa with teachers and each other. An information email will be sent to our Pasifika whānau over the next week.

PISA Testing

This year we are participating in the 3 yearly International PISA Tests on July 29. PISA is the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment, and Aotearoa /New Zealand is one of 90 countries taking part. It measures 15-year-olds' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science knowledge and asks them to share their opinions and experiences on school-related factors. It is the largest comparative study of education in the world. Policymakers use PISA as an international benchmark for education performance and to make policy decisions.

Approx 100 of our students will be randomly selected by the Ministry of Education to participate. Parents / caregivers will have received an information email if their child has been selected to participate.

Mt Roskill Art Showcase 2025

If you are interested in seeing what our visual artists have created so far this year, this exhibition is currently open, last day Sunday 20 July.

Location: Lynfield Youth and Leisure Centre, Mt Roskill (Stadium Room)

There are exhibits from all of the local primary, intermediate and secondary schools. Free entry.



ART SHOWCASE
17 – 20 July 2025
Lynfield Youth and Leisure Centre
16-18 Griffen Park Road
10am – 5pm Free entry
Dr Carlos Cheung MP for Mt Roskill

Authorised by C Cheung, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.

The poster features a blue background with a white diagonal stripe. On the right, there is a photograph of an art display with various colorful drawings and a large black fish-shaped artwork. Logos for the National Council of Women and the New Zealand Government are visible in the bottom right corner.

Year 11 Painting Class

The Year 11 Painting class is working on a personal pattern mural panel painting for the Level 2 Achievement Standard they sit during this course. They have completed several preliminary painting tasks and will be working on the panel painting for most of the year.



BrainBee Challenge

On 25th June, three Lynfield College Year 11 students, Tanvi Rana, Manha Mirza Sadath and Devyani Jogia along with Mr Morris visited the Centre for Brain Research at University of Auckland, to compete in the annual BrainBee neuroscience challenge. This challenge, organised by the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland, is an international competition aiming to encourage high school students to learn about the brain and its functions. The students spent the day immersed in the world of neuroscience, visiting labs, participating in a Gel Electrophoresis demonstration, meeting neuroscientists and competing in the individual and group challenges. The students enjoyed the day learning and interacting with students from other schools.



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Individual Sports Honours

SIONE APELU, YEAR 13

Sione was selected to represent Netball Waitakere in the U18 Men's 1 team at the NZ U18 Men's Netball Championship held at Te Pai Centre. Sione was the captain of his team and they performed exceptionally well at this tournament, managing to come away as undefeated champions. Congratulations!



RAJAL SHARMA, YEAR 12

Incredible news coming from the Archery scene as Rajal Sharma has been selected by Archery NZ to represent New Zealand in the Trans-Tasman Challenge which will be held in Christchurch late in September. Rajal is among 2 archers selected to compete for New Zealand in the U18 Compound section.

Congratulations Rajal on your selection and we look forward to seeing how you perform in this competition!

Sports Scene

MT MAUNGANUI SPORTS EXCHANGE

Unfortunately, our yearly Sports Exchange with Mt Maunganui College has been postponed due to some challenging weather hitting the east coast this week. Please stay tuned for updates on when this will be rescheduled to. We will have teams competing in the following sports:

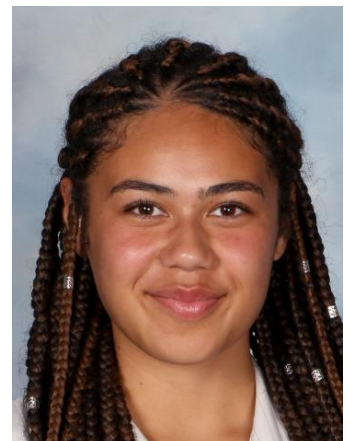
Rugby League, Football Boys and Girls, Hockey Boys and Girls, Basketball Boys, Netball Premier 1 and 2, Debating
We look forward to seeing this Sports Exchange being played and taking the challenge over to Mt Maunganui.

NETBALL – ADDISYN LENE

Addisyn Lene, Year 13 has recently been involved in the Netball programme *Game On*, currently airing on TV3 on Tuesday evening.

Addison was nominated and selected for the programme by Raise Up. Addisyn volunteers for Raise Up, working with younger students in the community and running events for and with them.

The programme gave Addisyn the opportunity to train with and be mentored by some of our ex Silver Ferns as they get themselves back in 'game shape' again.



TEAM TALK

FOOTBALL 2XI GIRLS

Our Junior Girls team playing in the Waitakere Senior B grade haven't had the easiest of seasons. Fortunately, with the arrival of Jackson Gardner to the staffing group. The team has been able to find their feet and have been making great improvements week by week.

This past week, the team faced Kelston Girls High School who were placed 2nd on the table. The Lynfield Team got off to a great start, going up 2-0 and finishing the first half 2-1 up. Unfortunately Kelston were able to pull a goal back and the game finished as a 2-2 draw but this is still an incredible result for the team which they're extremely proud of. Congratulations!



Uniform & Stationery Shop

PRICE CHANGES:

Our suppliers have notified us of a price increase across our product range. Unfortunately, this may mean that we must raise prices of some of our items. Please be aware that we do keep prices to an absolute minimum.

If you are needing uniform items but are suffering financial hardship, please email Mr Dye, Deputy Principal edye@lynfield.school.nz to discuss how the school can help you.

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 CHILD'S UNIFORM.



Friday 24th and Saturday 25th October 2025

REGISTRATION: Deadline: 29th August 2025
Please only use one, either online or printed form per person.

[May Road School 100th Online registration](#)

[May Road School 100th registration printable](#)
You can register now and pay later so we have an idea of numbers.

If you are interested in being involved with the organisation, the next committee meeting will be held at the school on **Monday 21 July 2025 at 5:00pm**

Email: admin@mayroad.school.nz Ph: 09 626 8021 Mobile: 021 244 8021.



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