



LYNFIELD
COLLEGE

NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 16 | 10 October 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.

Ni sa bula vinaka,

We have begun the new term with a week full of celebrations including Fijian Language Week and Mental Health Awareness week. Our student Wellbeing Coordinators planned a number of activities throughout the week with a focus on Top Up Together. We were delighted to welcome back past pupil Nicole in her capacity as a volunteer for St John Therapy Dogs when they visited on Wednesday. The week concluded with World Mental Health Day. "Parents and caregivers play a central role in shaping the mental health of their children. World Mental Health Day is an opportunity to pause and reflect on the pressures young people face in today's world and how we can best support them." For more information access SchoolTV through the school portal https://lynfield.nz.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-world-mental-health-day-nz

Korowai Value for Term 4

The theme for Term 4 is Wairua kaha with the first week's focus being "we are resilient - we keep trying our best, even when things feel really hard, and never give up" With our Year 12 and 13 students only having 2 more weeks in class, trying their best and never giving up is particularly relevant as they prepare for portfolio submissions and externals.

Willkommen to our visitors from Germany

Despite their early arrival time on Tuesday morning our student hosts were excited to welcome the group visiting from Ernst Haeckel Gymnasium. They have settled really well into life at Lynfield and are making the most of every opportunity. Preparations are now well under way for the groups visiting Germany and Japan next September.



IN THIS ISSUE

- Message from Tumuaki Cath Knell
- Alumni News
- Showdown Nominations
- Goethe Society Oral Language Competitions
- Kapa Haka Performance, Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori
- LC Board Student Representative
- Chinese Short Film Comp
- International Student leads Origami Workshop
- NZSS Curling Champs
- LC Students Bridge Climb
- Senior Dance Showcase
- Mental Health Awareness Week
- NCEA Externals Information
- Individual Sports Honours
- Sports Scene
- Uniform & Stationery Shop
- Community Event

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 14 October
ROSTERING HOME Y9
Tuesday 14 October
Festival Awards Evening
6.30pm in the Hall
Wednesday 15 October
ROSTERING HOME Y10
Wednesday 15 October
Y13 NCEA Info Assembly
Thursday 16 October
ROSTERING HOME Y11 & Y12
Friday 17 October
ROSTERING HOME Y13
Wednesday 22 October
Y12 NCEA Info Assembly
Thursday 23 October
PPTA STRIKE DAY

Past pupils in the news

Over the holidays there were a couple of sporting events where our past pupils were in the limelight. Grace Kukutai who is now playing Rugby Sevens for the Knights with a winning try and shotputter Maddi Wesche who was competing at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo. Maddi equalled her personal best of 20.06m to take out Bronze. Check out our News & Events for further details <https://www.lynfield.school.nz/News++Events/News++Events-2.html>

Let the celebrations begin!

We have reached that time of the year when we look to celebrate the achievements of our amazing students. The first of these celebrations is our Festival Awards Evening on Tuesday 14 October. Watch out for the live link which will be emailed on the day.

We also are delighted to recognise the talented staff working with our students with Sarah Street taking out Best Choreographer and Celia Nicholson Best Director - Musical at last night's Showdown Awards!

Ni sa moce

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

Alumni News

COLIN CHESTER

It was a pleasure to welcome back former student Colin Chester to Lynfield College during the final week of last term. Colin attended Lynfield in the 1960s and still holds very fond memories of his time at the school. He spoke warmly about many of his teachers, especially his hockey coach, Donald Nicholson, who helped nurture his lifelong passion for the sport.

That passion has continued throughout Colin's life. Now living in Orewa, he has devoted countless hours and personal resources to ensuring that young people can enjoy hockey, regardless of their financial situation. A few years ago, his inspiring community work — repairing and donating hockey gear to those who can't afford it — was featured on TVNZ's Good Sorts. His message was clear: every student should have the opportunity to play and enjoy sport without barriers.

During his visit, Colin generously brought along some hockey equipment for the school to use in fundraising efforts, helping next year's hockey teams as they prepare for tournament season.

As he toured the school, Colin was fascinated to see how much had changed since his student days. He reminisced about where different classrooms and subjects used to be located and was delighted to see that F and G Blocks still looked familiar. One of his favourite moments was looking through the Honours Boards in the Hall and spotting the names of old friends and familiar faces from his time at Lynfield.

After leaving school, Colin and his brother founded a successful plumbing business in Orewa, where he still lives today. He spoke passionately about how Lynfield College gave him a strong foundation and helped shape the person he became. It was wonderful to have Colin back on campus — and we look forward to welcoming more alumni to visit and share their stories in the future.



Auckland Live Showdown Award Winners!

BEST CHOREOGRAPHER: SARAH STREAT

BEST DIRECTOR – MUSICAL: CELIA NICHOLSON

Special congratulations to Mrs Sarah Streat and Ms Celia Nicholson, who were honoured at the Auckland Live Showdown Awards Night on Thursday 9 October, at the Bruce Mason Centre.

Massive congratulations to all our Lynfield College whānau on their nominations in the 2025 Auckland Live Showdown Awards for our production of *Chicago*.

We're so proud of every single kaihaka, designer, and crew member who brought this production to life. Ngā mihi nui for your mahi, creativity, and passion – what an achievement to be recognised at this level!

He waka eke noa – it takes a whole team, and this recognition belongs to everyone involved. Ka mau te wehi, Lynfield!

Our full list of nominations were:

Best Make-Up & Costume Design – Celia Nicholson, Sonia Wensor & team

Best Set Design – Celia Nicholson, Joshua Rennard, Sarah Reynolds, Wilma Van Heeswijk, Neil Waddington, Michael Henwood, Imogen Ellis

Best Stage Management – Beth Eyre

Best Performer in a Minor Role – Luke D Cunha (Guy in Cell Block Tango & other roles)

Best Supporting Role (Musical) – George Ledingham (Amos Hart), Jasmine Wilkings (Mama Morton)

Best Lead Role (Musical) – Madeline Fleming (Velma Kelly)

Best Vocal Performance – The cast of Chicago

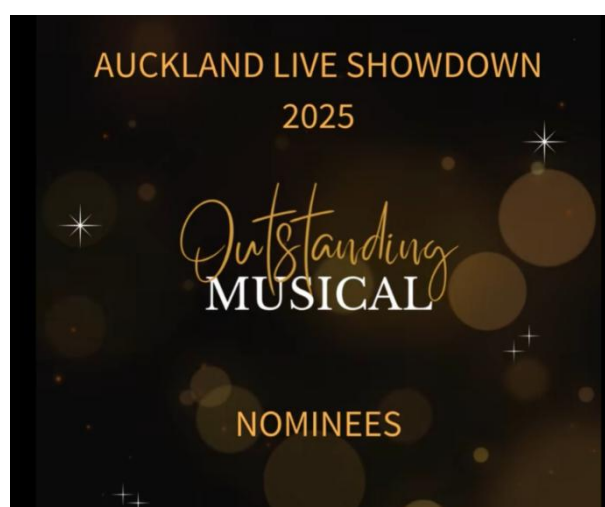
Best Dance Performance – The cast of Chicago

Best Ensemble in a Musical – The cast of Chicago

Best Choreographer – Sarah Streat & team

Best Director of a Musical – Celia Nicholson

Outstanding Musical – Chicago



Goethe Society Language Competition

The Auckland Goethe Society's annual German language competition, where students from High Schools across Auckland come together, took place in August. Students are placed in small groups according to their language / year levels and asked to have a conversation for 20 minutes on a given topic.

This year we had a great number of students participating and taking part in this event. We celebrated our success on the 8th October with the official prize giving ceremony in the Fisher Paykel Atrium at the University of Auckland.

We celebrate our success receiving gold, silver and bronze in the Junior categories as well as 2nd, 3rd, distinction, highly commended and commended across the Senior levels.

Vielen Dank to the students and their parents for supporting such a great event and striving for success!





Kapa Haka Performance – Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori

Kapa haka performed at St Lukes for Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori in the last week of Term 3. Tau 9 Akonga Safia Noor and Nika Reihana of Pounamu created this highlight reel of all of the activities from Te wiki o Te Reo Māori. From Paraoa Parai to Ki o Rahi students v staff, Reo Māori Kahoot, Rakau, staff quiz we had an awesome week celebrating!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AVUZ48A2AgQJY68Cpb2sqtIWJUP1IWHy/view?usp=sharing>

Ka nui te mihi ki nga akonga, kaiako, me nga whanau I tautoko I nga kaupapa o te wiki.

KIA KAHA TE REO MĀORI



Lynfield College School Board Student Representative

Congratulations to Mahant Agrawal, who has been elected our new Board Student Representative. Mahant Agrawal is a positive and enthusiastic Year 12 student. Experiences preparing him for this important role include being Youth MP of the Mount Roskill Electorate, where he represented all the youth in Mount Roskill at Parliament earlier this year, and extracurricular activities such as Hockey, Chess, Debating, and Robotics.

Mahant promises to listen, speak up, and follow through to make sure that students' voices are heard.



2025 New Zealand Schools Chinese Short Film Competition

Congratulations to the following students who have won three awards in the Chinese Short Film Competition, and will now attend a prizegiving ceremony at the University of Auckland, city campus on Thursday 16 October.

Year 11 Chinese

我们的中国故事

Our China Story

The Best Directors Award

Directors: Dorothy Chang, Jaimee Chow, Lucy Lovie Tyler, Tanvi Rana, Ellice Hii

Year 11 Chinese

假期我去了中国香港

I went to Hongkong over the holidays

Riveesh De Mel, Andy Song, Yisheng Zhou, Zhengxian Hu

Year 10 Chinese

我眼里的中国

China in my eyes

Malles Chetty, Owen Jiang, Maria Ma, Mathaniyun Syed Abdagir

International Student Leads Origami Workshop at New Lynn Library

One of our International Students, Kokomi Saito (Japan) led an origami workshop at the New Lynn War Memorial Library, supported by other International Japanese students Hanna Inoue, Sae Tochigi, Riria Seki, and Nanami Hori. Together, they invited children (and even some adults!) to join in and learn the art of origami. Most of the participants were children between the ages of 3 and 10, and the students did a fantastic job supporting them one-on-one. It was wonderful to see the participants not only enjoy the activity but also develop an interest in Japanese culture.

Kokomi worked hard preparing for this event, and it was a great success. We are proud of her initiative and of the teamwork shown by all the students who helped make the workshop such an engaging cultural experience for the community.



NZ Secondary Schools Curling Championships – Naseby, 20 – 22 September

For the first time in many years, a team went down to the NZ Secondary Schools Curling Championships in Naseby (two hours north-east of Queenstown). Anika Wong, Cheyenne Kirkman, William Day, and William Hooper represented the school with pride and took 7th place in the competition. The highlight was beating the previously unbeaten team from Otago Boys High School in the last game of pool play. For some of the team, it was the first time they'd played at a dedicated curling facility, and the quality of the ice took some getting used to. When one of the other coaches (we don't have a coach) asked us how often we practise (we can't practise), it showed the difference between the local teams and those from Auckland! At least we got to hand out the lollies on the flight down to Richie McCaw as well as getting a shout-out from the pilot wishing us luck in the tournament.



Lynfield Students Climbing High in the Holidays

Over the school holidays, a number of our students took part in short courses to explore potential career pathways and gain some real life experience.

Four students — Liam Stuart, Seamus Mohally-Sheehan, Charlie Harris, and Galaxy Karepa-Ross — attended an Adventure Short Course run by the International Travel College of New Zealand. The programme gave them the chance to connect with professionals in the adventure tourism industry and learn about the responsibilities, safety standards, and teamwork involved in this field. The highlight of the course was the chance to complete the Auckland Harbour Bridge climb, followed by a bungee jump — a nerve-racking yet exhilarating experience for some of them! All four students successfully completed the course, developing confidence and practical insight into adventure tourism as a career option.

In addition, several other Year 12 and 13 students also completed a two-day Customer Service and Communications course at the same College. This experience provided valuable knowledge and practical skills that will serve them well in both employment and tertiary study. Students also earned up to seven Level 3 NCEA credits through their participation.



Senior Dance Showcase

The Senior Dance Showcase was a huge success. The students performed their own choreography based on Black Grace's 'Method' as well as performing their repertoire numbers. There was a range of genres presented including jazz, hip-hop, contemporary, cha cha cha and samba. Well done to all the students for your hard work, and to the friends and whanau who came and supported us. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!



Mental Health Awareness Week

On Wednesday 8 October, Lynfield College was fortunate enough to be visited by St John Therapy Dogs. Volunteers from the organisation, Peter and Nicole, brought in three amazing dogs for students to pat, cuddle, and have a moment of joy with during Mental Health Awareness week. We were lucky enough to meet two of Peter's curly coated retrievers, Zak and Marco, and Nicole's St Bernard, Cruze.

The visit was a massive success with students thoroughly enjoying the experience. We hope that this will be something that could happen again in the future!

Chiara Pinto and Tilly Walsh, Wellbeing Coordinators



NCEA Externals Information

Literacy and Numeracy assessment results

Students who sat the Reading standard as part of the Literacy and Numeracy assessments in September will be able to access their results via their learner login from 3pm on Thursday 9 October. <https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/login/> Results for the Writing and Numeracy, standards will be available from 20 October.

NCEA Timetable

It is important students check their NCEA exam timetable carefully [NCEA exam timetable 2025](#)

Managing exam or assessment pressure

Helpful information about managing exam or assessment pressure and keeping stress at bay <https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/student-assessment-hub/managing-exam-pressure/>

NCEA Information Assemblies

We will hold NCEA information special assemblies for Year 13 on Wednesday, week 2 and for Year 12, Wednesday week 3, during Hui mai. Key Information about NCEA exams will be covered as well as the importance of following NZQA rules.

NCEA External Exams 2025

Below are some links to NZQA resources that will be useful for the upcoming external exams.

MyNZQA learner account shows all your secondary school results, awards, qualifications, and endorsements. In the MyNZQA learner portal you can also: view your entries, results and scanned external assessment booklets and digital exam responses, upload digital submissions for marking, apply for reviews or reconsiderations and request a Record of Achievement and NCEA certificates. <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/login/> (under learner log in).

Student Exam Hub: Resources for your exams (preparing for your exam, rules, hand study tips and setting up an NZQA account if you don't have one (Required if you are doing digital exams)

[Student assessment hub](#)

Digital Exams: Along with the revision students would do for external assessments, they need to get familiar with the digital assessment platform. Activities to familiarise themselves with the digital assessment platform and prepare their device can be found on the NZQA website: <https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/external-assessment/about-digital-external-assessment/>

A reminder that for all digital exams students need to ensure they have a laptop and that it holds its charge for the duration of the exam. They should know their password and log into NZQA prior to the exam to ensure they know they can on the day.

Studytime is online platform for NCEA students provides resources, tips about exam strategies and copies of past exams. There are free resources you can access if you sign up (workbooks incur a cost) <https://studytime.co.nz/>

NCEA me te Whānau workshops (from Monday 6 October to Thursday 30 October)

[NCEA me te Whānau workshop registrations](#)

Derived Grades: Where a student faces extenuating circumstances and is not able to sit their NCEA external examinations, a derived grade can be applied for using this link [Download a derived grade application form \[PDF, 121 KB\]](#) or collect an application form from the school office. Students need to provide supporting documents that show why, for circumstances beyond their control, they: couldn't attend an external examination or submitted an incomplete externally assessed portfolio. Derived grade applications are due no more than 2 weeks after the student's last affected exam or assessment. All Derived Grades are only provisional. They are confirmed by NZQA in January when results are released.

If you have any issues about the external exams, please contact our principal's Nominee, Jennifer Moss JMoss@lynfield.school.nz

Individual Sports Honours

RAJAL SHARMA YEAR 12

Rajal proudly represented New Zealand at the 2025 Trans-Tasman Challenge, held in Christchurch from 25–30 September. Across four challenging days, 76 archers from Australia and New Zealand faced unpredictable weather, pressure-filled shoot-offs, and strong opponents in pursuit of the Trans-Tasman Cup.

In the end, Australia narrowly claimed victory with 124 points, while New Zealand followed closely with 119 in a tightly contested tournament.

Competing in his first international event, Rajal delivered one of his best archery performances. In the World Archery Ranking Round, he scored 667 out of 720 points, earning a well-deserved place on the podium with a **silver medal** in the Compound Under 18 Men division. He continued giving his best in Matchplay, even setting a new **personal best (PB)** with an impressive score of 144/150.

This tournament marks a significant milestone for Rajal—gaining invaluable experience, forging new friendships, and wearing the silver fern with great pride.

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

UNIFORM RETURN

With all winter sports now finished for the year please return all sports uniforms to the Sports Office ASAP. As per the permission slips approved at the beginning of the season, any damaged or lost or not returned uniform will need to be replaced and thus a Uniform Replacement Fee will need to be paid.

SUMMER SPORTS

With the start of Term 4 comes the start of our summer sports again! This term we will have 4 Cricket teams and 3 Volleyball teams competing in weekly competitions. We look forward to seeing how they all get on.

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.



The Athlete's Foot School Rewards

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

SHOP YOUR WAY

- ONLINE 
- APPOINTMENT BOOKING 
- VIRTUAL QUEUING 

ascent asics Clarks HOKA



LENCO Supporting schools, clubs, communities since 1975 **LIVE YOUR PASSION**

Support LYNFIELD COLLEGE SPORTS TEAMS
Purchase any item of your choice from www.lenco.co.nz
One-Stop Shop for sports equipment & accessories.

Use LYFC to claim 15% Discount
We will offer an additional 10% to the Lynfield College Sports Department as sponsorship

- Hockey, Football, Netball, Futsal, Cricket, Rugby, Handball, Badminton, Basketball, Volleyball & Sports accessories
- School, Sports & Work Shoes, Football & Rugby Boots
- Hi-Vis, Workwear, Hospitality, Healthwear, Casualwear

We offer

- Wholesale and Retail options
- Reputed brands, international quality
- Sponsorship based on contract value
- Value in kind sponsorship
- Referrer and Referee benefit
- Fantastic service and support

Discount on selected items only, 10% sponsorship applies to all products, use the code when you order.

12 Carr Road
Three Kings
Auckland 1042
www.lenco.co.nz
09 393 3366
sales@lenco.co.nz

Back in the Day Play!



Join us in the park for some nostalgic fun and fresh air!

To celebrate Bupa's Healthy Cities Challenge and Auckland Council's Play Month you are invited to enjoy a day of classic games and light-hearted activities we all remember playing in our youth

What's on:

- Hopscotch, egg & spoon races, stickball
- Board games, card games, wooden puzzles
- Obstacle courses and playful challenges for all ages
- Nature-themed play and activities

Why come?

Reconnect with the games you loved, enjoy the outdoors, and share laughter with friends, family, and the wider community – bring a picnic and make a day of it!

Where: Blockhouse Bay Recreational Reserve, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland.

When: Saturday 26 October, 10am – 2pm.



Scan the QR code
for more info.



Brought to you by
The Openfort

