



LYNFIELD
COLLEGE

NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 12 | 14 AUGUST 2026

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

Students are in class and learning

Our senior students have a very clear focus at the moment on completing their internals and preparing for the upcoming Derived Grade/Practice Exams and Assessment opportunities scheduled to begin on Monday 7 September. Selected students in Year 10 have been entered into the Lit/Num (CAA: Common Assessment Activities) which will also be held during this time.

You will be aware of the conversations in the media at the moment about the use of AI in schools. Students are reminded that they must follow the NZQA guidelines for each assessment opportunity and provide the evidence required to be eligible for a grade. These requirements are set by NZQA and not by the school.

Planning for 2027

Course Selection: This is well underway with August being Course Selection month. Once the selections have been made, Deans and Faculty Leaders will review every choice to catch any errors.

Enrolments: Due to demand an extra *School in Action* tour has been scheduled for 11.30am next Monday 17 August. We are encouraging families to submit their online applications now so we can plan for the number of classes needed for Year 9 next year. Anyone making an application for categories 1-5 (siblings of current or past students/children of former students) **MUST** submit their online enrolment form by **4pm on Wednesday 2 September**. Please note that these are only being accepted for Year 9, no other levels. Enrolment interviews will be scheduled for early in Term 4.

Curriculum changes: With the revised science and social sciences curriculums having only been released this week, our Teacher Only Day has been had to be rescheduled for **Monday 21 September**. Please update your calendars accordingly.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

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COMING EVENTS

Monday 17 August
Tonga Language Week
School in Action Tours
11.30am

Tuesday 25 August
Jazz & Blues Concert
6 – 8.30pm, School Hall

Friday 28 August
Daffodil Day

Monday 31 August
In-Class Priority Week
Winter Tournament Week
Mon 7 – Fri 18 September
Senior Assessment Weeks
Monday 21 September
TEACHER ONLY DAY

Alumni News

ELIANA COMPETENTE

FROM LYNFIELD HEAD GIRL TO FUTURE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Former Lynfield College Head Girl Eliana Comptente (2021) is continuing to pursue her passion for understanding people and supporting mental health.

Now in her fifth year of a Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws conjoint degree at the University of Auckland, Eliana has combined her interests in Psychology and Law. While in Year 13 at Lynfield, she was considering Law and Global Studies before choosing Psychology, driven by her long-standing interest in mental health and her desire to help others.

"Studying psychology would help me give back to my community and live a life that is able to help others struggling with their mental health," Eliana says.

Eliana's time at Lynfield was always a busy but rewarding one. One of her favourite memories was co-creating the Lynfield Hauora Committee, a group which grew to more than 60 students during her time at school.

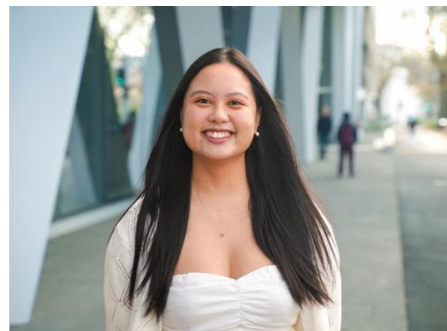
"It was really meaningful to work together with students who were passionate about supporting student mental health."

Alongside her many other commitments at school and in the wider community, Eliana also served as a Director of the Puketāpapa Youth Foundation from 2020 to 2022. Her favourite subjects at Lynfield were Japanese and History, while she remembers Ms Kim (Kim Sensei), Ms Mackey, Mr Isdale, Mr Cheung and Ms Clark as teachers who made a lasting impression. She continues to keep in touch with many of her Lynfield friends.

Eliana hopes to specialise in clinical psychology, and she is already gaining valuable experience through volunteering in mental health settings, including the Anxiety New Zealand Trust, as well as making weekly visits to an elderly home. After completing her conjoint degree, she plans to undertake an Honours year, followed by a Master's degree or PhD in Clinical Psychology.

Eliana encourages school leavers interested in Psychology to remain open-minded, empathetic and curious. She also recommends considering the University of Auckland, particularly for students who enjoy exploring different areas of Science alongside their main field of study.

It is great to see Eliana doing so well and continuing to make a positive difference in the community. We thank her for sharing a little bit of her journey with us and look forward to following her continued success and contributions she will make to the mental health and wellbeing of others.

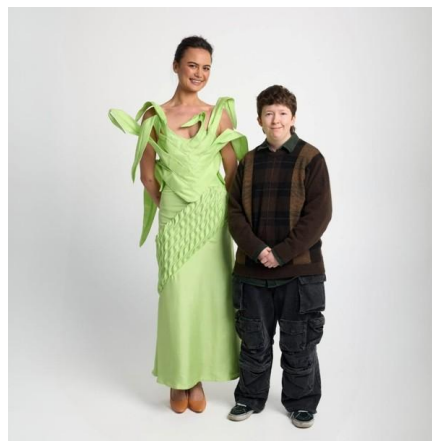


Whitecliffe Fashion and Design Competition

Lynfield ex-student Keiron Briggs, currently studying for the Diploma in Fashion at Whitecliffe's Auckland Campus, was one of 10 finalists selected by the judges for the **2026 Resene Colour of Fashion collection**.

Since leaving school Keiron has been developing their creative edge, initially through set designing and building, moving into fashion last year.

The overall winner of this competition will be announced at the Whitecliffe Graduate Showcase later this year, and we wish Keiron the best of luck!



Music at Lynfield

LYNFIELD RETURN TO THE FINALS OF AUCKLAND JAZZ AND BLUES FESTIVAL

For the first time since 2019, Lynfield College was featured in the finals of the Auckland Jazz and Blues Festival. Taking out a Platinum award, the Moa Combo comprised of Ashton Silveira (Sax), Theo Jackson (Piano), Harry Baker (Drums), James Gallagher (Guitar) and Minh Phan (Bass) earned a spot as one of the top 4 Combos in the competition. The overall level of musicianship and talent was spectacular, and while the group missed out on the top spot, special mention goes to Ashton Silveira who was awarded one of the three Best Soloist awards. A huge achievement from the group, and their tutor Mr Charlie Isdale.

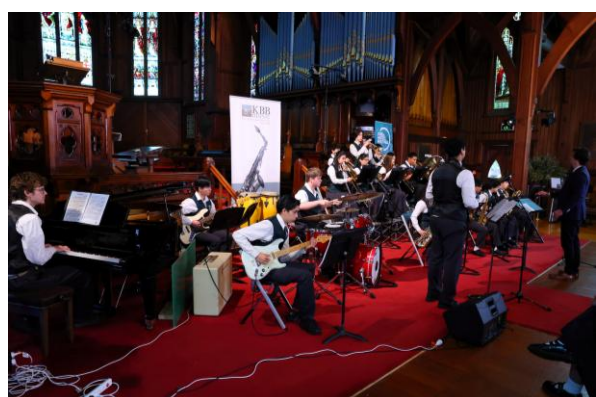
Also competing at the festival were the Lynfield College Big Band which came away with Gold, as well as the Whēkau Combo, Huia Combo, and Pouākai combo, which all earned Silver awards. A massive Congratulations to all the students involved.



KBB FESTIVAL WEEK

This week has seen the Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band and Big Band competing at the annual KBB Music Festival held at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Parnell. All three groups have put in a huge amount of effort in the lead up to the competition, and special mention goes to the teachers in charge - Mr Sue (Chamber Orchestra) Mr Isdale (Big Band) and Mr McLarin (Concert Band). All three groups performed exceptionally well, and we are eagerly awaiting results which come out on Saturday.

Also congratulations to Doris Tan (flute) and Ellice Hii (Cello) who were selected to perform in the Honours Symphony Orchestra. This concert is on Friday night at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, and entry is free.



Lynfield Jazz and Soul Concert

Tuesday 25 August (Week 6) is our annual Jazz and Soul concert held in the school hall. This will be the last major music concert for the year, and a great chance to hear some of the awesome music that has been going on at Lynfield College this year.

We will also be joined by a very special past students Jazz Combo, featuring students that have recently left Lynfield College.

Entry is \$5 at the door.

It will be a fantastic event, and we would love you to come and support the students!



Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

We were delighted by the wonderful turnout at our second round of Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences on 6th and 7th August. Despite the chilly weather, whānau came together to reflect on student engagement and progress across subject areas and to discuss option choices for 2027.

These conversations are invaluable—they allow us to celebrate student achievements and identify ways we can work together to support our rangatahi. Thank you to all families who attended and engaged so positively with our Hui mai teachers.

If you would like to discuss your child's progress in a specific subject area, simply email your child's Hui Mai teacher and they will arrange for the relevant subject teacher to contact you. We are here to support your child's learning journey.

Assessment and Exam Weeks – Weeks 8 and 9

Our students will be demonstrating their learning through a comprehensive range of assessments taking place **Monday 7th – Friday 18th September**. During this crucial period, Year 12 and 13 students will be on study leave and are required to attend school only for their scheduled exams and assessments. Year 10 and 11 students will continue with their regular timetable.

What to Expect

Students will participate in:

Practice external exams for a derived grade (may be used if a student has valid reason to miss an NZQA exam)

Internal practical assessments or workshops

Literacy and Numeracy (LITNUM) exams

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance during exam weeks is essential for students to demonstrate their learning and achieve their best. Please note that if a student is absent from school during an exam, it may not be possible in some subjects to sit an alternative paper for a derived grade.

Important reminder: Overseas trips are not considered valid reasons for missing exams. If your child will be away from school during this period, please send a letter to our Principal, Ms Knell, prior to the planned absence so we can plan accordingly. We also encourage families to avoid scheduling appointments during exam weeks. If you have any questions about exam attendance or procedures, please don't hesitate to contact our Deputy Principal, Ms Sandy Harris, at SaHarris@lynfield.school.nz

September Draft Exam Timetable and Clashes

Please check the [exam timetable](#) well in advance to see if you have any clashes (i.e. two assessments scheduled at the same time).

If you have a clash, please speak with your teacher(s) to see if you can reschedule e.g. *do a workshop with another class*.

Fill in [this form](#) if you need to sit an exam at the earliest possible opportunity.

You may be required to sit in supervised isolation between exams to maintain derived grade exam integrity.

You will receive an email from me with a solution to your clash (e.g. "Move your 3HIS exam to the Hall on Tuesday 15 September in the morning session") before the exams start.

If there are issues that we have not yet anticipated, the exam timetable may change. A final exam timetable will be published as soon as possible.

If you have any questions please see me or email nwaddington@lynfield.school.nz

Neil Waddington

Academic Advisor

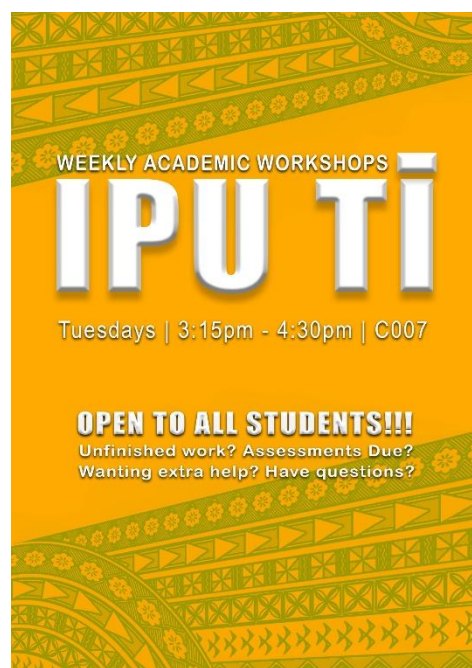
Literacy and Numeracy Exams (LITNUM)

If a student is entered into a Literacy or Numeracy exam during the week 8 and 9 Assessment Weeks, their English and Maths teachers will have informed them. Hui mai teachers will also be reminding them. Students are being prepared for these exams both in English and Maths lessons and in Hui mai time.

You can support your child by:

- Asking them if they have registered on NZQA and if they remember their password. [NZQA The Student login - Google Slides](#)
- Checking their device is working and charged
- Reminding your child to bring an [approved calculator](#) and a ruler to the numeracy exam
- Looking at the digital platform with your child [Preparing for digital assessment as a student - NZQA](#)
- Encouraging your child to work through past questions. It might be an interesting experience to do some questions with them! [Find past digital external assessments » NZQA](#)

Students are encouraged to attend the weekly Ipu Ti academic workshops after school, where the focus will be on Literacy and Numeracy up until the coming exams. Snacks will be provided.



Attendance

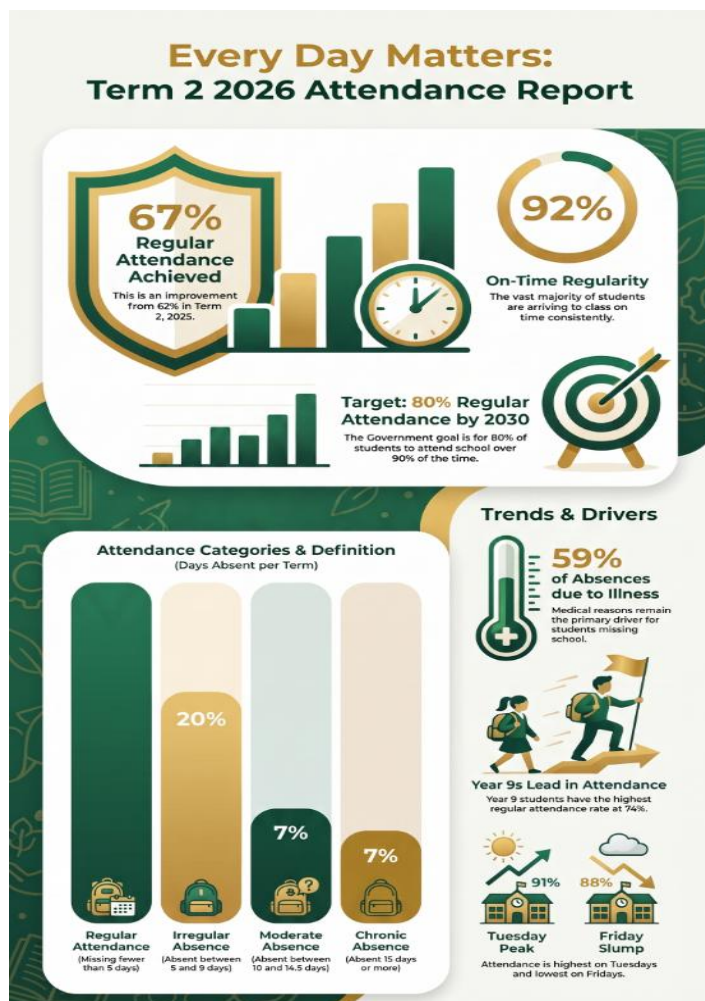
Our attendance goal for Term 2 was to have 67% of our students attending school 90% of the time - this is having less than 5 days away from school. We reached this target which is 5% better than Term 2 2025. Currently we are tracking towards meeting this target.

Term 3 our target attendance 57% which seems low but is 5% greater than Term 3 last year!

We are also targeting students who had between 5 and 9 days away from school to see if they can improve to have less than 5 days absent this term.

Punctuality is a great life skill to have and we have a number of students signing in late each morning. Please work with your child to assist them to be in class ready to learn by 9.00am each morning.

Should your child be late because of an appointment please phone to let the office know.



PASCH Scholarship Winner

MATTHIAS COLEMAN

During the holidays and the first week of term I was able to attend the PASCH-Jugendkurs Scholarship Programme in Benediktbeuern southern Germany, which I had been awarded earlier this year. During the course we extended and developed our German skills, with students from all over the world. We also had opportunities to explore Munich and Innsbruck, which are two cities rich with history. Overall this was an amazing experience, getting to meet so many cool people, and having so many amazing adventures. It is something I will never forget!

Matthias Coleman



PASCH Support Teachers' Professional Development Scholarship

FRAU MIRJAM WRADATSCH

I recently had the wonderful opportunity to work with some incredible German language teachers from all over the world (La Reunion, Abu Dabi, Uruguay, Bolivia, Columbia, Chile, India, Indonesia, Egypt, Ruanda) during my three week stay in Göttingen, Lower Saxony, Germany.

The scholarship's focus for this professional Development for PASCH Support Teachers had included topics such as

- Reflecting on motivating approaches to error correction and feedback for young people
- Applying methodological and didactic principles to make German lessons for adolescents successful and motivating
- Developing effective, creative, and varied practice and learning activities
- Using digital tools and applications in German language teaching for young people
- Updating and broadening perspectives on Germany, particularly with regard to the lifestyles and everyday realities of German youth

Thank you to the PASCH Initiative for such a fantastic course!



Kuki (Cook Islands) Language Week

To celebrate Kuki Language at Lynfield College in Week 4, we began with a special dance performance on Monday 3rd August, performed by Ukura Raina (10PCF) and her Mother during our morning staff briefing. During the following days we held an 'Ura (dance tutorial) session for Va'ine, and 'Ei Katu making activities in the whare.



Level 3 History Waikato Wars Trip

Our Level 3 History students recently travelled to the Waikato to deepen their understanding of the Waikato Wars and the experiences of those involved. The field trip provided students with the opportunity to connect classroom learning with significant historical sites and taonga.

Our first stop was Rangiriri Pā, where students were guided through the original pā site and the surrounding battlefield. Standing on the whenua where the battle took place helped students develop a deeper understanding of the strategies used, the challenges faced by both sides, and the impact of the conflict on the people and communities involved. Students also explored the New Pā, a replica of the original site, where they participated in their own battle simulation – complete with pool noodles!

The group then travelled to Te Awamutu Museum, where students were able to handle and examine tools and weapons used during the Waikato Wars. This hands-on experience helped bring their classroom learning to life and strengthened their understanding of the nature and consequences of the battles.

The day concluded with visits to significant sites at Rangiaowhia and Ōrākau. Seeing these landscapes firsthand allowed students to consider how the Waikato Wars transformed communities and contributed to the subsequent confiscation of Waikato lands. The field trip was a valuable opportunity to connect historical evidence, place and lived experience.



Student Leader Expo for 2027 positions

On Monday, students had the opportunity to attend the Student Leader Expo, where they could learn more about the different leadership roles available at Lynfield College.

The expo gave students the chance to speak directly with current student leaders about their experiences, responsibilities and what each role involves. From cultural and sports leadership to Head students and other school-wide roles, students were able to ask questions and gain a better understanding of what it means to take on a leadership position.

This opportunity encouraged students to consider stepping outside their comfort zones and putting themselves forward for a role in 2027.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LYNFIELD COLLEGE SCHOOL BOARD

Voting for this position will take place in Week 10 of this term.

Lynfield College Annual Blood Day

On Tuesday 11th August, we welcomed the New Zealand Blood Service to our school for our annual Blood Drive.

It was great to see so many students and staff get behind such a worthy cause. Ambassador Coordinators Vyom Barot and Arsh Narayan have done a great job promoting this event and drumming up student support.

This is always an important day on our school calendar and we thank the NZ Blood Service for giving our students this opportunity.



The maximum number of appointments we can fill is 60 per day, but with a reduced timeframe to be able to take donations this year, interest exceeded capacity. Our very healthy 41 donations were very much appreciated by NZ Blood.



You are heroes!

DOWNLOAD OUR **APP** TO FIND OUT YOUR **BLOOD TYPE**

MAKE SURE TO USE THE SAME EMAIL THAT YOU REGISTERED WITH!



GET APP

& GET NOTIFIED WHEN YOUR BLOOD DONATION IS USED TO HELP SAVE A LIFE



THANK YOU

LYNFIELD COLLEGE

30

DONATIONS MADE

=

90

LIVES SAVED!

LYNFIELD COLLEGE BLOOD DRIVE
11TH AUG 2026

AS WE ALL 3 COMPONENTS (RED BLOOD CELLS, PLASMA & PLATELETS) OF BLOOD SEPARATELY, **90 NEW ZEALANDERS** LIVES HAVE BEEN IMPROVED BECAUSE OF YOU.

Sport Scene

JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

On Wednesday 12th August we held the final for the Junior C Grade Boys Basketball competition in our Lower Gym between Lynfield U15 Gold and Lynfield 15 Green. Coached by two members of our PE Staff, there was a lot more than just a championship on the line for this matchup. The Lynfield U15 Green team got off to a flying start in the first quarter, leading 21-9 at the break. This lead proved to be too much for the gold team to overcome with the match ending in a 50-34 victory for the Lynfield U15 Green team. Special mention to Sonny Brown and Juancho De Guzman on their 15 point efforts to secure this win for their teams. Congratulations to both teams on your incredible seasons and Curtis Naughton for earning the bragging rights within the PE Department. We look forward to seeing how these talented groups progress in the coming years.



WINTER SPORTS SEASON WRAP UP

In the coming weeks, the majority of our winter sports seasons will be coming to an end. Congratulations to the following teams for earning a chance to fight for the podium:

Basketball U15 Boys Gold + Green (Junior C Basketball Final)

Football 1st XI Girls (Girls Central Senior A2 Plate Final)

Hockey 1st XI Girls (Girls Hockey C Grade Final)

Netball Premier 1 Girls (Netball Waitakere Premier 1B 3rd/4th)

Congratulations to all teams on your fantastic seasons, working hard and putting a lot of time and effort into your competitions.

With the winter sports seasons coming to an end, please ensure you are returning all of your sports uniforms to the sports office as soon as possible.

HOUSE NETBALL

This week concluded our final lunchtime house competition which was House Netball. Despite the poor weather we had on several of the days, our Sports and House Captains adapted well and worked hard to reschedule the competitions into the gyms, which turned out to be a great success.

Congratulations to **Fatialofa** for winning the Junior Competition and **Zoricich** for winning the Senior Competition.

House	Bray	Fatialofa	Faumuina	Lewis	Reid	Zoricich
Juniors	5 th	1 st	3 rd	6 th	2 nd	4 th
Seniors	2 nd	4 th	3 rd	5 th =	5 th =	1 st
Total Result	7 4 th =	5 1 st =	6 3 rd	11 6 th	7 4 th =	5 1 st =

