

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

Welcome back to the last term for 2027
Term 4 sees our focus shift to our school value of **Wairu kaha**: ***We are resilient; We are leaders; We are resourceful; We are confident; We persevere.*** With Week 1 also being Mental Health Awareness and our Year 12 and 13 students preparing for their external exams, there has been a focus on resilience. Leadership has also featured with our successful applicants for 2027 Leadership positions being announced. We look forward to seeing our students persevering with their studies and making the very best use of their time in class during this short 8½ week term.

NCEA Exams begin on Tuesday 10 November
This will see our hall and many of the classrooms converted into exam spaces. On Thursday 12 November we have so many Year 11, 12 and 13 students sitting exams that the only way we can accommodate them is to have the rest of our Year 9 - 11 students learning from home. There will be a separate notification sent out with the details of all the important dates for you to be aware of.

Celebrations of Achievement
Tuesday night saw the first of our formal awards ceremonies, our Festival Awards Evening, and what a wonderful evening it was. Full of variety, with a number of student groups performing, it was a testimony to all the hard work that has gone into extra-curricular sports, performing arts and cultural events throughout the year. For those not able to attend in person or missing the live link that was emailed, the ceremony can still be viewed Lynfield College - Festival Awards Evening 2026

We look forward to celebrating with another group of achievers at Senior Prizegiving on Monday 2 November.

Strategic Plan – Community Consultation
The school and Board are currently working on the next Strategic Plan which will take us from 2027 - 2029.

As part of the development of this plan, we are looking at ***Aiming for Excellence*** being one of the goals so are gathering feedback on what **Excellence** means to our families / whānau. Those attending our Festival Awards Evening, and seeing so many examples of excellence amongst our students, were given the link to this consultation form. This will be emailed to all of our families / whānau next week.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

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COMING EVENTS

Monday 26 October
Labour Day Public Holiday
Thursday 29 October
Talanoa Evening 6-8pm
Friday 30 October
Last Day Y12 & Y13 attend classes
Y12 Final Assembly 2.30pm
Monday 2 November
Y13 Appreciation Day
Y12 on Study Leave
Y9 – Y11 Work from home (work will be set for students)
SENIOR PRIZEGIVING 6.30PM
Saturday 7 November
Voting Centre, College Hall
Monday 9 November
Enrolment Interviews Begin

Alumni Spotlight

GRACE KUKUTAI – FROM LYNFIELD TO THE NRLW

We were delighted to welcome former student Grace Kukutai back as a guest speaker at this week's Festival Awards Evening. Grace shared her journey through professional sport and reflected fondly on her time at Lynfield.

Grace was Deputy Head Girl in 2014 and was also named Sportswoman of the Year. Her sporting journey began with Netball, where she represented the New Zealand Secondary Schools team before progressing to the New Zealand Under-21 level. In 2019, Grace made the switch to rugby sevens and moved to Japan to pursue new opportunities. She went on to represent Auckland in provincial rugby and play for Chiefs Manawa in Super Rugby Aupiki. In 2024, she made another exciting move, transitioning to rugby league with the Newcastle Knights. She now plays for the Canberra Raiders in the NRLW.

During her talk, Grace spoke warmly about her time at Lynfield, giving special mention to Mr Braithwaite, Ms Walbran, Jo Smith and Mrs Clark. One particularly touching moment came when she pulled out a card Mrs Clark had given her, which she had kept all these years. The card reminded her to "stop and smell the roses" – a message that has stayed with her throughout her sporting career.

Grace shared some valuable lessons from her journey through professional sport. She explained that her work ethic had helped her get her foot in the door, but it was her character that had kept her there and opened the door to further opportunities. She also spoke about the importance of being a good teammate, particularly during challenging times.

Her biggest piece of advice for students pursuing sporting dreams was to make sure they have "their village" – the people who support them, stand beside them and help them through the highs and lows.

We are incredibly grateful to Grace for returning to Lynfield and sharing her story with our students. We are proud not only of her outstanding sporting achievements, but also of the character and resilience she has demonstrated throughout her journey. We wish Grace all the very best for the next NRLW season with the Canberra Raiders.







Festival Awards Evening

On Tuesday 20 October we held our annual Festival Awards Prizegiving. It was a wonderful evening celebrating the amazing achievements of our students. We were privileged to have Grace Kukutai (Deputy Head Girl 2014) as our Guest. During her interview with Russell Christie, Grace shared her memories of life at Lynfield and reflections on her journey through professional sport, ranging from Netball, Rugby to Rugby league. More detail about this can be read in the Alumni article.

The impressive performances we were treated to during the evening showcased just some of our talented students. Thanks must go to Julia Jenkins-Cox and Joey Monzon, the Bollywood Showdown Group, Lupe Fetuani, Moa Jazz Combo and the Tongan Group.

Congratulations to all recipients.

Group of the Year: Equal Bollywood Showdown Group and Moa Jazz Combo

Winning House: Equal Fatialofa House and Reid House

Year 12 Musician of the Year: James Gallagher

Year 13 Musician of the Year: Ashton Silveira

Year 11 Sportsman of the Year: Llewellyn Butcher

Year 11 Sportswoman of the Year: Chelsea Silveira

Year 12 Sportsman of the Year: Geo Sandyang

Year 12 Sportswoman of the Year: Josephine Sor

Staff Awards: Doug Bryan (Robotics) and Greg McLarin (Music and Performing Arts)

SUPREME AWARDS

LYNFIELD COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Arts and Culture: Julia Jenkins Cox and Akeelah Te Rangi

Sports: Ayla Raki

DUX LUDORUM

Annaliese Matson and Rajal Sharma

DUX ARTIUM

Ashton Silveira





Don Oliver Sports Foundation Award

Rajal Sharma has been awarded the **Bronze Scholarship from the Don Oliver Sports Foundation for the 2026/2027 season** during an awards ceremony on Friday 16 October. The Foundation supports athletes in their sporting development by providing opportunities and assistance to help them pursue their sporting goals.

Congratulations Rajal!

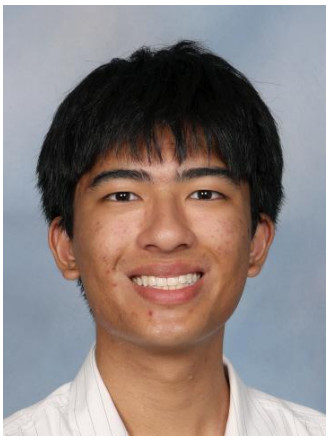


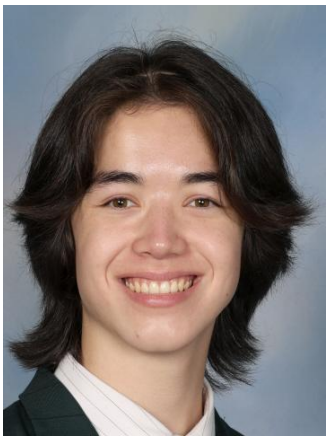


University Start Programming Computer Science

Congratulations to Ryan Fernando and Toby Pin, who both achieved an outstanding 100% in the University Start Programming Computer Science paper through Waikato University. Alongside their regular schoolwork, both students have taken on the challenge of university-level programming, demonstrating exceptional commitment, perseverance, and a passion for Computer Science.

We are incredibly proud of their achievement. **Well, done, Ryan and Toby!**





Mental Health Awareness Week

Last week, our school celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week (the theme Belonging) with a range of activities which encouraged connection, positivity and looking after one another. From Mindful Colouring, Jump Jam, Karaoke, Pyjama Day, and Shave for a Cure, we were able to promote supporting each other's mental health by getting involved. We raised $620 in donations from Pyjama Day for the Mental Health Foundation.

Mental Health Awareness Week is a reminder that mental health matters, and that small involvements can make a difference. These events encouraged people to connect, have fun, show appreciation, and support one another in helping to create a more caring and supportive school community. Thank you to those who participated in these events, making the week a successful one.

Shave for a Cure

The Year 12 Student Exec had the privilege of organising this year's Shave for a Cure event. Several brave students stepped up to get a buzz cut or shave their heads to raise vital awareness and funds for those facing blood cancer. A massive thank you to these courageous students and everyone who donated to Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. Your incredible support makes all the difference!









Key Information for NZQA External Exams 2026

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

NCEA/2026-Exam-Timetable.pdf

List of approved calculators

Log in to NZQA Where to access results in January (under learner log in)

Student Assessment Hub Resources for NCEA exams and assessments

Digital external exams/assessments These are displayed in blue on their admission slips. It is very important that all students have a NZQA account before a digital exam and that they remember their password.

Managing Exam Pressure

Rules for students taking assessments

Applying for a Derived Grade Where a student faces extenuating circumstances and cannot sit their NCEA external examinations, a derived grade can be applied for using this link. 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. All derived grades are only provisional. They are confirmed by NZQA in January when results are released.

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

EXAM ADMISSION SLIPS

Students have been issued with their exam entry slips. They must check the details on the slip very carefully . If an exam they are expecting to sit is not there, they need to see Ms Moss as soon as possible.

If a student has an exam on their entry slip that they are not doing, they should also see Ms Moss as soon as possible.

A 'D' on the exam entry slip indicates the student will be doing a digital exam.

The exam entry slips must not be damaged in any way, e.g. folded, torn, written on, or have any stains on them, otherwise the student will be denied entry to sit the exam. See Ms Moss to have a new slip printed and signed.

Summer School Programme

Need to catch up ?

Te Kura Summer School is a short-term, online learning programme for eligible students who need up to 12 NCEA credits to move into further study, training, or employment.

Key Dates for 2025/2026 Summer School:

- 16 December: Summer School starts.
- 23 December to 4 January: Te Kura closed for the holidays.
- 5 January: Summer School reopens.
- 12 January: Maximum available credits drop from 12 to 6.
- 23 January: Registrations close at midday (12.00pm).
- 9 February: Final day for students to submit work for assessment.

For more information on the registration criteria, what subjects are available and how it works, please visit

https://www.tekura.school.nz/learn-with-us/summer-school

Trash to Fashion Event at Lynfield

On Thursday 24 September, Lynfield College's Sustainability Committee hosted a Trash To Fashion show, showcasing unique and innovative designs. Participants showed their creativity by turning used objects into eye-catching garments that otherwise would have created plastic waste or gone to landfill. This meaningful event brings light to the importance of sustainability and the concept of finding use in things that people would just throw away. It reminds the Lynfield community to be environmentally friendly and inspires others to transform creativity into sustainability.

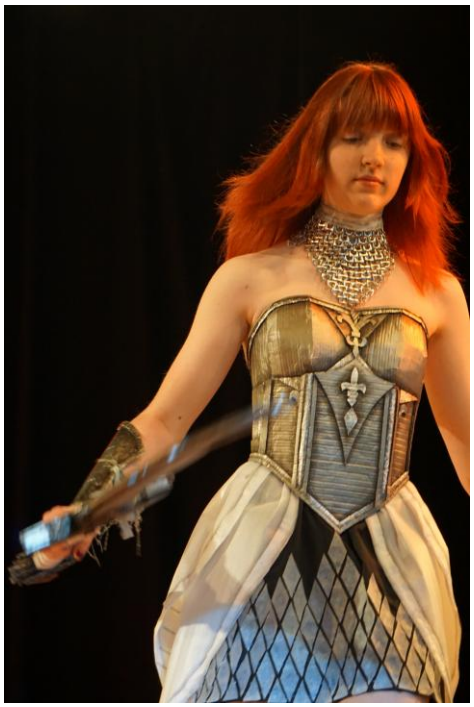
Contestants this year competed in 3 categories: Best Construction of a Garment, Most Innovative Use of Materials, and Best 'Wow' Factor. The winner of 'Best Construction' is returning contestant Izzy Connor, who won Best Construction of a Garment two years in a row. Izzy's striking garment was inspired by Joan of Arc, knights, and medieval-style fashion. The impressively detailed outfit consisted of a cardboard battle sword and soda can tabs, which mimic chainmail. 'Most Innovative Use of Materials' went to Laurene Tagaca, Athena Jin, and Emily Qi, with their rain fairy-inspired garment. This group's innovative use of materials included an umbrella's opening mechanisms to create a system to make real movable wings, which created a playful and fun detail. For the 'Wow Factor' category, Eman Ayaz, Sienna Milich, Katie Smith and Anya Smith's beautiful ocean-inspired outfit symbolically represented and brought attention to the trash floating around Earth's oceans. The outfit's complementary colours and wide variety of recycled materials, along with a matching parasol accessory, proved why they won the category.

This event also showcased the Year 10 students' wonderful Pyjama Party garments for a delightful closing act.

Written by Athena Jin and Laurene Tagaca.









Dance Showcase

On Wednesday 14 October, Lynfield College held the annual Dance Showcase. Dance Students from Year 10 - 13 performed their class dances which included genres such as Samba, Hip Hop, Jazz, Contemporary and Siva. The evening was a mix of both teacher and student choreography and the students did extremely well.

Thank you to all the friends and family who came to support us, and we look forward to next year!










Showdown Awards

Congratulations to the Cast of Popstars which was nominated in six categories for the Auckland Live Showdowns:

- Julia Jenkins - Cox for Actress in a Minor role and Lead Dancer
- Faaite Poma - Supporting Actor
- Caitlin Hsaio - Supporting Actress
- Ava Wallace – Supporting Actress
- Sarah Streat and Julia Jenkins-Cox – Best Choreographer
- Cast of Popstars – Best Dance Performance

On Wednesday 21 October, we attended the Showdown Awards Ceremony at the Bruce Mason Theatre, where our students were honoured with an invitation to perform.

The students delivered an outstanding performance, showcasing their talent, dedication and professionalism. They were fantastic ambassadors for our school, representing the Dance Department really well.

Julia Jenkins Cox was a winner on the night, and we are incredibly proud of her!







Barista Masterclass and Mixology

Our Year 12 and Year 13 Barista students recently enjoyed an exciting masterclass and mixology session with Mangesh from Monin New Zealand. The session explored the art and science behind creating drinks, looking at how flavours, textures, ingredients and presentation work together to produce exceptional beverages.

Students gained hands-on experience creating a range of innovative drinks, including banana and popcorn milkshakes, sodas topped with cold foam, and a variety of iced coffee creations. They also enjoyed a demonstration of different latte art techniques, discovering how small details can make a big difference to the finished drink.

Our students were highly engaged throughout the session. The Year 13 students gained valuable advice, techniques and inspiration for developing their Term 4 drinks promotion, while our Year 12 students left feeling excited and motivated by the possibilities for the drinks they can create at D'Cafe next year.

A huge thank you to Mangesh for sharing his time, knowledge and expertise with our students. These opportunities help bring industry practice into the classroom and encourage our aspiring baristas to experiment, develop their skills and think creatively.

Looking ahead, Lynfield College D'Cafe will be using Monin syrups exclusively from next year. Monin is known for its extensive range of flavours, consistent quality and versatility, giving our students the opportunity to create innovative drinks with reliable results. Monin also offers a range of products that are Halal-certified, helping us cater to a wider range of customer needs and preferences.

We look forward to bringing these new skills, flavours and ideas to D'Cafe and seeing what our students create next!









9IL Term 3 Sustainability

9IL students enjoyed a range of learning activities during Term 3, exploring the theme of **Sustainability** across their subjects.

In Humanities, students investigated palm oil products, pollution, fast-fashion and e-waste. They also used Minecraft Education to design a sustainable house. Building on this theme, PE focused on *Approaches to Learning*, developing students' core skills in working collaboratively, managing themselves and sustaining their learning over time.

In English, students explored persuasive writing techniques before applying these skills to write a letter to the editor and a feature article on a sustainability topic of their choice. In Technology, students explored the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by creating a superhero that personified one of these goals. They presented their superhero to the class before extending their ideas through Minecraft Education.

In Science, students focused on matter and atoms. This learning connected with the highlight of the term - our visit to the Waitākere Dam. Watercare educators introduced students to the dam through a water filtration activity before guiding them along and beneath the dam. Students learnt about its history, why it was built, and how it is maintained. They also received shower timers to encourage water conservation at home. We would like to sincerely thank Watercare for the excellent planning and the wealth of knowledge their staff shared with our students during our visit to the dam.



We concluded the term by designing and creating pencil cases using reusable materials, putting our sustainability learning into practice through creativity and resourcefulness.

Wa Hono 2026

We are looking forward to the 2026 round of Wā hono, where Year 9 and 10 students spend two days involved in an activity supporting the community, extending their learning, or contributing to the school environment. This year, Wā hono runs on Thurs 3 December – Friday 4 December.

Activities this year are a mix of old favourites such as Christmas Cakes for Age Concern and Rangatahi in the Community, where students visit Takaparawhau and work at Mara ki Pourewa, the community vegetable garden of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. New activities this year include making thank you gifts for the school community, painting and stocking Little Libraries, and designing and launching Water Rockets.

Students will choose their preferred activity in Week 3.

20th New Zealand Chinese Essay Competition

Outstanding Success in the 20th New Zealand Chinese Essay Competition

Congratulations to our Chinese language students on their outstanding achievements in the 20th New Zealand Chinese Essay Competition!

Richa Koppikar (Year 10) won the prestigious Ambassador's Trophy, the competition's top award! In the junior category, Mae Ding and Amelia Lu won second prizes, while Sanvi Patel and Ayanna Sree received third prizes. In the senior category, Tanvi Rana, Mallesh Chetty, Ian Zhang and Jazmin Teoh also won third prizes.

Richa's winning essay beautifully illustrates how language can build bridges between people and cultures. Inspired by her Chinese neighbours, she reflected on the Chinese character "人" (rén, meaning "person"), seeing how its two strokes support each other as a symbol of mutual support, friendship and harmony. Her original ideas and vivid descriptions demonstrate that even simple Chinese can convey profound and meaningful messages.

These wonderful results celebrate our students' hard work and remind us that learning Chinese is not just about language skills, but also about understanding other cultures, building friendships and connecting people around the world.

Congratulations to Richa and all our prize-winning students on this fantastic achievement!



Enrolment Interviews for Year 9 2027

Year 9 Enrolment Interviews will be held from 3.30 - 4.30 in the following weeks:

Week 5 Monday 9 November, Tuesday 10 November, Wednesday 11 November and Thursday 12 November

Week 6 Monday 16 November, Tuesday 17 November and Wednesday 18 November

St John Award – Maddy Hughes 12DNG

Congratulations to Maddy Hughes who has received the St John's Grand Prior's Award, which is St John's principal and senior cadet award. Maddy showed commitment and determination by first earning 10 gold badges (five compulsory and five of their choice), along with a Level 2 First Aid certificate and 100 community hours.



Student Soccer Stars Represent Lynfield in Australia – Ryan McIssac

English class writing, By Ryan McIsaac, 11CHA

The 2026 Christian Football Federation Australia (CFFA) National Titles took place September 28 to September 30 at Casey Fields in Melbourne.

Lynfield footballers Ryan McIsaac and Kaelan Pippin represented New Zealand, competing against teams from across the country.

Ryan, a goalkeeper, brought his shot-stopping ability, communication, leadership, and one-on-one skills to the team throughout the seven-match competition. The tournament featured memorable moments, including a last-minute winner in the opening game, alongside some tough defeats that tested the team's resilience.

Finishing third in their group, the team progressed to the semi-final for third place. Ryan recorded a clean sheet in the match, helping his team secure a 2–0 victory and finish third overall.

Ryan has represented Lynfield's First XI and celebrated league titles with both his Year 9 team and the Junior Premier team the following year.

Kaelan, a right-back, is known for his defensive ability, communication and respectful attitude. He progressed through Lynfield's Year 9 and Year 10 teams before representing the Junior Premier team this year. He hopes to make his First XI debut next year, continuing his development as a player.

Representing New Zealand was a valuable experience for both players, giving them the opportunity to challenge themselves and develop their game. Their achievement is something the Lynfield community can be proud of, recognising their dedication and the opportunity they had to represent their country.





NEW BUS ROUTE



- From **Monday 12th October** AT will be introducing a new trip in the afternoon between Lynfield College and New Lynn.
- It will run as a school service: **468**, and will follow the route of the 68 to New Lynn.
- The **468** will depart stop **8908** on White Swan Rd at **3:17pm.**

SCHOOL BUS

468

Please remember to tag on and tag off on this route as usual. To ensure you pay discounted fairs, register your HOP card - **at.govt.nz**

