

AUGUST 2025

# A Message from our Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

I have been very pleased with the recent participation of our students in a wide range of sports and cultural activities. The Kapa Haka Rōpū stood proudly after many hours of practice, our netball girls played exceptionally well for a younger team at the North Island tournament, and our girls basketball team won their competition. Our junior sports teams also performed strongly, winning the recent sports fixture against Makoura College. We are all looking forward to tonight's "QEC Showcase" to celebrate our music and cultural groups.

I would like to encourage junior students to sign up for the summer sports available next term. Mr. Stewart is once again holding trials for the mixed touch team to participate at the nationals in Rotorua at the end of the year. The focus for our senior students will be on passing the appropriate NCEA level and gaining the qualifications they need to progress next year.

We have been approached by the staff at the BP petrol station on Rangitikei Street regarding some of our students' behavior. Unfortunately, some students are not meeting the behavior standards we expect. We are going to ask them not to congregate on the forecourt and to be careful when moving around the filling stations. We would also like to ask that parents and caregivers arrange an alternative pickup point for their children. The BP station has been very tolerant of students being picked up there in the past, but they have now contacted the College and asked for our support in moving pickups to the school site.

We have just a few weeks of school left before the holidays. Please talk to your child about making the most of the learning opportunities presented to them. With winter sports and other activities finishing, some students may choose unwise ways to use their increased energy levels.

Nāku noa, Nā Chris Moller Principal

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

2 September QEC Showcase
8-12 September CAA Exam Week
19 September Last day of Term 3
20 September - 5 October School holidays

6 October First day of Term 4

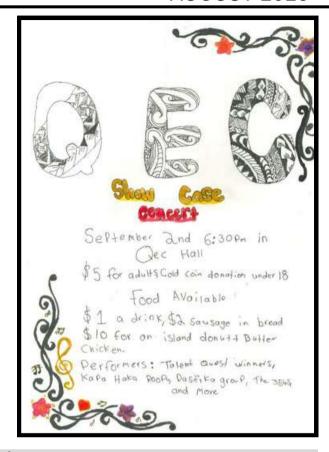
• 27 October Labour Day - Public Holiday

29 October Senior Prizegiving4 November Senior Exams Start



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### **Student Centre Reminders**

STUDENT CENTRE PHONE NUMBER: 022 506 8976

#### **ABSENCES**

If your child is absent, you can: Use the KAMAR Portal; Txt 022 506 8976; Call 06 358 9033 (option 2) Ensure you provide student details, and the reason for their absence.

#### **UNIFORM**

Please ensure all students are wearing correct uniform.

### **DRIVING LESSONS**

If students are interested in free driving lessons, please see Sandie in the Student Centre.

#### **MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS AVAILABLE**

Our school provides free menstrual products, and can be accessed through the Student Centre or Te Whare Pikiora.

### Juniors Leagues | Wednesdays from 4.00pm

Wednesday 15th October - Wednesday 10th December 2025

#### Youth Leagues | Tuesdays from 5.00pm

Tuesday 14th October - Tuesday 9th December 2025

#### Senior Leagues | from 5.40pm

Tuesdays 14/10/2025 to 9/12/2025 & 13/01/2026 to 24/02/2026 Wednesdays 15/10/2025 to 10/12/2025 & 14/01/2026 to 25/02/2026

Register online at https://www.sporty.co.nz/ArenaSummerSocce Entries Close 31/09/2025







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# **Highlight on Sports**

























Well done to our kapa haka rōpū







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## International Department News - Building Global Connections at QEC

At Queen Elizabeth College, our international programme continues to thrive, creating rich opportunities for cultural exchange and global learning. Although we farewelled our popular Brazilian students on 05 July when they returned home to continue their high school studies, the past term has also seen international student activity. Visiting groups from China and Japan, the further development of our buddy system, and increasing interest from prospective students from around the world has seen the international team keep busy. We are also working on finalising the visit to Japan and China for Principal Chris Moller. He will build on newly established relationships with schools and agents in China and Japan with a view to securing future short - term group visits and longer-term student enrolments.

## **Welcoming Visitors from China and Japan**

In recent weeks, QEC has proudly hosted three separate groups of international students – two from China and another from Japan. Both visits brought fresh energy to the school, as students joined classes, participated in co-curricular activities, and engaged in cultural exchange with our learners.

These visits were more than just opportunities to practise English. They offered a window into the daily life of New Zealand secondary schooling and created countless chances for cross-cultural friendship. The visiting students particularly enjoyed the chance to work alongside their New Zealand peers in classroom learning, sports lessons, as well as activities around the city.

Hosting international visitors is always a rewarding experience for QEC, as it allows our local students to share their own culture and identity while learning more about others. Feedback from both visiting groups has been overwhelmingly positive, with many students commenting on how welcomed they felt by staff, buddies, and classmates.

## **Strengthening the Buddy System**

Central to the success of these visits has been the development of our buddy system. Every international visitor is paired with a QEC student, who takes on the role of guide, supporter, and friend throughout their stay. This not only helps the visiting students to feel settled but also provides our local students with valuable opportunities to practise leadership, empathy, and intercultural communication.

This term, buddies were involved right from day one – welcoming visitors in class, and helping them navigate school routines and most of all - the Kiwi accent!

As the buddy system grows, it is clear that the benefits are two-way. International students gain confidence in adjusting to a new environment, while our QEC students develop a broader global outlook and a deeper understanding of the value of cultural diversity.











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# International Department News - Building Global Connections at QEC

### Looking Ahead - Interest for Term 4 and Beyond

The success of these recent visits has sparked growing interest from future students and schools overseas. Already, enquiries are coming in for Term 4, 2025, and we are delighted to advise that we hope that we will welcome new short-term students later this year. Looking to 2026, QEC is also seeing strong interest from Brazil and Japan. This is an exciting development, as it reflects the growing reputation of our international programme and the warm hospitality our school community extends to visitors. The inclusion of more students from Brazil will further enrich our cultural mix, building on the global connections already established with Asia and beyond.



At QEC, we see international education as far more than a programme – it is part of who we are as a school. Our vibrant multicultural community is enriched every time we open our doors to students from abroad, and our learners benefit from the friendships, perspectives, and insights that these exchanges bring.

Whether it is welcoming a short-term visitor from Tokyo, supporting a Year 11 student from São Paulo, or preparing local students to be global citizens, the International Department plays a vital role in shaping an inclusive and outward-looking school culture.

### **A Shared Journey**

We are deeply grateful to all the staff, students, and host families who make these experiences possible. From the buddies who give their time so generously, to the teachers who adapt lessons to include new perspectives, to the families who open their homes with warmth – every effort helps create a memorable and transformative experience for our visitors.

As we look ahead to the rest of 2025 and beyond, one thing is clear: Queen Elizabeth College's international story is only just beginning. With new friendships being forged, fresh opportunities on the horizon, and a community dedicated to embracing diversity, we are confident that our international programme will continue to flourish and inspire.













