



# QUEEN ELIZABETH COLLEGE TE PĀNUI

October 2026

## A Message from our Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

We have an update regarding our Board: Karl Brown has stepped down as Presiding Member but remains an active Board Member, and Starsh Te Riini has stepped up from her Deputy role into the Presiding Member role.

It is good to be back at Queen Elizabeth College following mine and Isabel's recent trip to the UK and Europe. I would like to thank the Board for allowing us time to reconnect with whānau after many years apart. At assembly on Monday, I shared some stories from our travels, as well as celebrating our successful cultural trip to China at the end of last term. The feedback from both students and staff about experiencing a new culture has been overwhelmingly positive. My thanks to the staff and whānau that worked hard behind the scenes to make this experience possible for their tamariki.

Our senior staff certainly worked above and beyond towards the end of last term. Managing the final details of the China tour, navigating a lot of staff sickness, running house music events, hosting the ERO visit in Week 9, and interviewing candidates for student leadership made for a busy period. I am certainly thankful for the efforts of Mr Maaka, Sojourner and Mrs Baynes during that time. A special mention to Mr Tongs, who introduced a new House Singing event in Term 3. It adds another cultural element to our school calendar, got all students involved, and was a resounding success!

Our senior students (Year 11-13) are now in the final stretch of their academic assessments for the year. Senior students who have passed all academic requirements will be released from school after the senior prizegiving on Thursday 29th October at 11am. If your child has been entered for external NCEA examinations, they will start on Tuesday 3rd November. Please ensure your child attends all examinations they are entered for. Senior students that have not passed the academic requirements are expected back at school to continue working on internal NCEA credits or Numeracy and Literacy standards. These senior students will continue attending school until they pass or have given every possible effort.

If you have any questions about your child's academic standing or exam timetable, please contact their Year Level Dean:

- Year 11: [ltahiwi@qec.school.nz](mailto:ltahiwi@qec.school.nz)
- Year 12 & 13: [modea@qec.school.nz](mailto:modea@qec.school.nz) or [sojourner@qec.school.nz](mailto:sojourner@qec.school.nz)

Our junior students (Year 7-10) will continue in their academic programme for the next five weeks before moving into our end-of-year activity block. This will include year-level camps, optional local activities around the city, and school-based curriculum-based days designed to teach new skills and keep students engaged. The Junior Prizegiving will be held on 2nd of December at 11am. On Thursday 3rd of December, we will have our final day at the Lido Aquatic Centre followed by a Teacher Only Day on Friday 4th December. Further information about the junior programme will be released closer to the time.

Nāku noa,  
Nā Chris Moller  
Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

- |                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| • 26 October     | Labour Day - No school                          |
| • 28 October     | Pae Rangatahi                                   |
| • 29 October     | Senior Prizegiving 11am - School Hall           |
| • 3 November     | NCEA exams begin                                |
| • 23 Nov - 1 Dec | Junior Camp & Activity Days                     |
| • 2 December     | Junior Prizegiving 11am - School Hall           |
| • 3 December     | Lido Aquatic Centre Day - Last day for students |
| • 4 December     | Teacher Only Day - No School                    |



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## 2026 China Cultural Trip

At the end of Term 3, our cultural rōpū spent 10 days in China. The Chinese people, schools, tour guides, shop keepers and dignitaries welcomed us with so much manaakitanga. Our students have seen many sights and experienced the Chinese culture over the ten days. They were outstanding ambassadors for their whānau, our kura and community. This trip will be remembered by those who came on it for life. Thank you to the whānau who put the mahi in to get their child on this trip. A huge thanks to the BOT, Mr Moller and our kura for your incredible support and finally thank you to the wonderful staff and students on this trip. If anyone gets a chance to go on a school trip I suggest you do. This has changed our students perspective on what is out in the wide world, but this is just the start.





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## Dodgeball

Our Year 7 and 8 students had a fantastic day out at the Kelly Sports Intermediate Dodgeball Competition, with QEC entering two teams.

Both teams had plenty of fun throughout the day and showed great sportsmanship and determination. The QEC Royals had a couple of losses during the round-robin, finishing 4th and qualifying for the semi-finals. They then produced two impressive performances, defeating the top-seeded Takaro in the semi-final before beating TKKMOM in the final to become the Manawātū Champions!

It was a great day out, with both teams representing QEC proudly and enjoying the opportunity to compete. A big thank you to all the whānau who came along to support our students – your encouragement was greatly appreciated!



## Netball

Huge congratulations to our Year 7&8 Netball team, who crowned a fantastic season by taking out the championship title with an 8-5 victory over Monrad in a thrilling final!

The progress these players have shown from day one has been remarkable. Their hardwork, determination, and teamwork were on full display, each player has grown both individually and as part of a team.

Thank you to the coaching and umpiring team, and thank you to all of their supporters who braved the cold nights week after week – your support has meant the world to the team!



## Public Notices

Have you heard of YOSS?  
YOSS provides free, youth-friendly health for enrolled young people aged 10-24 years living in Palmerston North, Feilding, Pahiatua, and Woodville. They have walk-in clinics in the morning and booked appointments with doctors, nurses, counsellors, social workers and psychologists. It really is the one stop shop for your all young person's health needs!

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## Agrifutures

A group of our students have been involved in the AgriFutures Farm Skills pilot program! Last term the group threw themselves into hands-on agricultural learning, stepping outside their comfort zones and trying new skills with fantastic enthusiasm.

Here is what our students had to say about their hands-on visit to Massey University's farm:

*"We went to Massey Farm, we did a range of activities starting with fencing where we set up electric fences and practiced tying knots. Then we went to the orchard where we saw kiwifruit, apples, citrus trees, juniper and pears. Then we went to learn about different weeds and grass on farms. Afterwards we had subway for lunch and did a gumboots throw competition. Then we learnt about digestive systems of sheep and what they eat. Lastly, we weighed sheep, drafted them and learnt how to ear tag them. Finishing the day off with petting the sheep and some lambs. It was a great day"*

The pilot program wrapped up on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September with a final session on quad bike safety and operations, topped off with a celebratory BBQ.

We have received wonderful feedback from the instructors about our students' outstanding attitudes and willingness to tackle new challenges every single week. A huge well done to everyone involved! We are hoping to see this great program continue in the future, pending decisions from the Ministry of Youth.



## 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 1)  
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.