

# International Student Newsletter



Term 1 2025



**Deb Mills**  
Deputy Principal/International Student Director

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2025. It has been a pleasure to welcome students to our school community from all around the world including Germany, Brazil, Chile, Thailand, Vietnam, China and Japan. Primarily, students are here for long term study, however, we have also had the opportunity to host students for various lengths of stay, including a short term group from Japan.

Our domestic students have relished the opportunity to act as ambassadors and buddies, ensuring that our international students not only have a critical friend with them at all times, but they have provided insights into the school and shared their learning experiences. For students to achieve success they need to be happy, healthy and engaged. It is our endeavor to ensure that students are given every opportunity to achieve at the highest level and to be given excellent support from our team - International Student Dean, Sacha Waller, Homestay Coordinators - Megan Gill and Donna Yee, and Hyonju Park, International Administrator.

Please do visit our website or  



International Students Photo 2025

**Seongbin Moon**  
- International Student  
Representative on the School  
Council Executive



Seongbin is exceptionally connected to the International Student community and will be the voice of our International Students this year and will work closely with Ms Waller, Dean and lead the International Student Committee to organise activities for students.

Excited for the Year ahead!

Hello everyone! I am Seongbin Moon, and I am excited to take on the role of being an International Representative on the Executive for 2025! This role is a great opportunity to bring international and domestic students together and strengthen our school community. With such a diverse community, I hope to organise events that bring people together

and celebrate different cultures. By working with the committee and staff, I want to make sure that everyone has an enjoyable and memorable time while studying abroad at Newlands College.

I'm looking forward to what is ahead and can't wait to get started!

## STUDENT VOICE

### ORIENTATION for New International Students

I enjoyed playing the Māori stick game Poi Rākau. I made new friends with my buddy and other international students.

- Asumi Tsukada from Japan

## SPORTS EVENTS

### Badminton

I enjoyed playing badminton. I had fun with my friends and my team won some chocolate.

- Riho Minagawa from Japan

### Futsal

Playing futsal was lots of fun because I scored many goals and made some new friends. My teammates were very friendly.

- Rika Muraguchi from Japan

### Futsal

I was in a team with Year 13 students. They were so kind, accepting me. I also went to Wellington to represent the school in a tournament. It was quite a lot of fun. You should play futsal to make good memories while in NZ.

- Seo Takemoto from Japan



**Volleyball**

I made new friends from Years 9-12. I have never played volleyball before, but it was a lot of fun and I learned some new skills.

-Mana Kushida from Japan

**Volleyball**

It was hard to communicate and join the game, but the games were a lot a fun and my teammates were very friendly and kind.

-Minami Yamamoto from Japan

**Table tennis -**

I met twice a week to play table tennis against many different people. I played against some strong players, but I could win some games. Good luck to the players for the league. I had fun.

-Tadaharu Yamamichi from Japan

**Art Club**

I loved the art club. It was fun making things from clay and chatting with friends and other art club students. I made a Hello Kitty for my memories of New Zealand.

- Sui Tomizawa from Japan

**L3 Geography Trip**

We were very excited to have the chance to go on the Geography trip. The group had great energy and they were fun to be with. The scenery on the hikes

was very impressive and it was a great opportunity to have.

-Gina Gordon and Helene Stein from Germany

**Level 3 Geography Trip**

The Tongariro crossing was one of the most impressive trips I've ever been on and was characterized by a very interesting, unique and storytelling landscape.

I appreciate the engagement of teachers, which were accompanying us, for organising the trip together with the school and teaching some interesting facts about the volcano and its natural environment.

- Alexander Jahnhorst from Germany

**Tabloid Sports**

I was the Ice Queen from Frozen (Takuma) and I was a jandal (Hikaru). Tabloid Sports was a great way to make friends and have fun together.

- Takuma Ban and Hikaru Hoshi from Japan

**Shared Farewell Dinner**

The farewell shared dinner was a great way to bring lots of people together with delicious food and great karaoke singing before many students started heading home.

- Elisa Flohr from Germany

**Hangi**

The Hangi was my favourite experience at school.

- Asumi Tsukada from Japan