

# International Student Newsletter

Term 1 2024



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

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2024.

It has been a pleasure to welcome students to our school community from all around the world. 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 follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



## NEWLANDS COLLEGE 2023: Admirable Results!

- Achieving significantly higher than national NCEA Levels 1, 2, and 3 results
- 13 scholarships awarded across a range of subjects  
Thomas Ru - awarded three scholarships, including an outstanding in Physics
- Fantastic pass rates for Literacy and Numeracy at Year 10

**Congratulations to all students & staff**

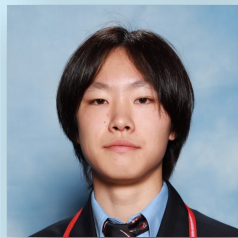


WWW.NEWLANDS.SCHOOL.NZ • PHONE 473 4136 • 



**International Student Committee 2024**

**Kanan Matsumoto**  
from Japan  
International Student Representative  
on the School Council Executive



Kanan Matsumoto from Japan is the International Student Representative on the School Council Executive. Kanan 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.

### Greetings from Kanan Matsumoto

Hello everyone! I am Kanan Matsumoto from Japan and the International Student Representative on the Executive for 2024! I am really glad to be in this role as it comes with more responsibility, but also comes with more excitement. For instance, I will have more opportunities to be involved in events and organize them. This is so cool, isn't it?

Since I've been given this enjoyable position, I really want to collaborate with the committee members and teachers to plan events that everyone can enjoy. Despite having more international students than last year, I aim to make this year one where we can all have fun, transcending barriers of nationality.



### STUDENT VOICE

#### ORIENTATION for New International Students

I liked it because I got to know new friends better before school and hang out with them in places that I had never been to before. The best part of the week was when I played sports and games in the school gym with new friends because it was the way me and my friends got closer.

- Ado(Thanpsit) Suppapisitkun from Thailand

During the orientation period, I thought it would be nice to continue this in a fun place where you can make friends for the first time

**Photos from Orientation, outdoor education, geography trips, pizza and game night, Yifan fishing, Jonathan and Leo posing with the German rugby union player, Anton Segner, and Dragonboating**



studying abroad. I was best friends with the ambassador students until the end, and it was hard to say goodbye.  
- Saya Araki from Japan

**OUTDOOR EDUCATION—RAFTING/CAMPING TRIP**

I confess that I never imagined I would have an experience like this! Lots to tell, many landscapes to be described! . This trip was so magical; I would redo it many, many times. If I were to describe this campsite with just one word, it would be “splendid”.  
- Maria Oliveira da Rosa from Brazil

I didn't imagine that I would come to New Zealand and take a trip like this. It is so cool!  
I didn't imagine that I would go down a stone wall, I would see landscapes as beautiful as the ones I saw in rafting and especially I didn't realise how cold the water is! One of my favourite parts for sure was when I taught my colleagues and my teachers to speak some words in Portuguese, especially “marcha na boneca”  
- Jhenifer Rozela from Brazil

**GEOGRAPHY TRIP**

I really enjoyed the geography trip to the Nelson Lakes National Park and the West Coast. It was wonderful to see all of this beautiful nature. Although the walks were a bit extensive, the views we got out of them were more than a reward. The view from St. Arnaud Range was magnificent, especially after a four hour walk 600 meters up the hill. Also the trip to the West Coast was great.  
- Jonathan Schikora from Germany

I am glad that I had the chance to be part of the geography trip because it was a very unique experience and a great opportunity to see beautiful landscapes and untouched places.  
- Bo Herzog from Germany

We enjoyed climbing the mountain together. It was hard, but I remember how beautiful the view at the top was.  
- Moeka Hoshi from Japan

**FUTSAL**

Our school's senior girls' futsal team is going really well. Every teammate is friendly, everyone can have the sense that I'm involved with my team. Everyone struggles for victory, for the school and for each other. We have achieved quite awesome achievements so far. I hope our team can play better, and we welcome you guys to come support us!  
-Yang(Xiaoyu) Zhang from China

**FISHING**

It was a sunny and peaceful afternoon and I went to a lake for fishing with my host brother. He is an expert in fishing and taught me to do that. After countless steady casting and reeling, fortunately, I got a big fish, which is the first one I caught in my life.  
- Yifan Hu from China

**DRAGONBOATING**

Although I was initially hesitant and not sure if I wanted to participate in school dragon boating, my enthusiasm quickly developed as I discovered the community and personal challenges that actually made me really enjoy it.  
- Bo Herzog from Germany

**NCEA SCHOLARSHIP. And VOLUNTEERING - BIRD SANCTUARY**

I'm very honored to receive a Scholarship in Chemistry because it took a lot of learning and effort to get it. Throughout my learning, my teachers were very supportive and helpful. We had a Scholarship session after school every week and went through the learning for the Scholarship. We also did experiments that we saw in the Scholarship questions. This not only allowed me to learn new knowledge but also revise the learnings in my main Chemistry class.

Going to the bird sanctuary is one of my favourite activities to do outside of school. Being able to take care of the injured birds allows me to learn more about their habits and biology. I find this very interesting because I want to become a veterinarian. So by learning and having experience first hand, I think that I get good preparation for my future career. Additionally, the birds are very cute and beautiful. I also have the opportunity to see endangered and native birds, too.  
- Mai (Mai Thanh Hoang) Nguyen from Vietnam

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GAMES AND PIZZA PARTY**

I enjoyed the pizza party. It was a good opportunity to talk to a lot of people. It was fun to play the games as a group.  
- Honoka Mori from Japan

I really enjoyed spending time with people, especially when we played games. I want to go again.  
- Kurara Imai from Japan

It was fun to meet the ambassador students at the pizza party for the first time in a long time. It was a good place to get involved with international students from various countries.  
- Saya Araki from Japan