



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 4, Term 4 (11 November), 2022

COMING EVENTS

Monday 14 November

Pasifika Parents' Asosi meeting 6.30pm in the staffroom

Monday 21 & Tuesday 22 November

Teacher only days – only students sitting NCEA exams are to attend school

Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 November

Junior Exams

Wednesday 23 November

Parents' Association meeting in the staffroom at 6.30pm

Thursday 24 November

Board meeting 6pm in the staffroom

Tuesday 29 November

Junior House Competition
PPTA Paid Union Meeting

Wednesday 30 November to Friday 2 December

Year 10 Camp activities
Year 9 Survivor & Social Action Day

Monday 5 December

Fiafia Night

Wednesday 7 December

Full school assembly – seniors return

Thursday 8 December

Prizegiving 7.30pm at the Indian Centre, Kilbirnie

Friday 9 December

Teacher only day

Friday 16 December

School office closes

2023 TERM DATES

- Term 1** Monday 30 January to Thursday 6 April
Term 2 Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June
Term 3 Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September
Term 4 Monday 9 October to Friday 8 December

Term 4 is in full swing, as NCEA external exams have begun for Years 11-13 students, while Year 9 and 10 students will sit their exams in a few weeks time.



To help all our students prepare for their upcoming examinations, some Study Skills material, looking at a range of revision techniques, including a blank revision timetable, is available on our website. This material will be useful for all students from Years 9-13.

Examinations for Year 9 and 10 students are scheduled for **WEDNESDAY 23 & THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER**. An examination timetable is attached and your son can begin his preparation for these important exams by ensuring that all his notes are complete and up-to-date. Teachers will be giving students advice on what material will be in the exams over the next few weeks.

ACADEMIC NEWS

HELPING YOUR SON TO STUDY

Whether your son is in Year 9 or 10 or studying for NCEA, he should have a Study Timetable for the time leading up to his exams. These can be downloaded from our website or a copy requested from the college office.

TEACHER-ONLY DAYS:

MONDAY 21 & TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER are teacher only days for most secondary schools in our local area. Consequently, there is no school for all students on that day. **NCEA external exams will proceed as scheduled.**

The focus of the day will be to review proposed changes to NCEA and the refresh of the NZ Curriculum. As part of these days, Rongotai teachers will be collaborating with teachers from other colleges at venues spread across Wellington.

PAID UNION MEETING:

On **TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER**, the Wellington branch of the PPTA is holding a Union Meeting. When we have more certainty about the timing of the meeting and its potential impact on activities planned for that day, we will be back in touch with you. **NCEA external exams will proceed as scheduled.**

The following suggestions are useful ways to help your son to study:

- **Make sure that your son has set his routines from now until the time of examinations.** It is a good idea to do the same things at the same time each day e.g. meals, chores, and **STUDY**. Make sure your son has filled in his Study Leave Timetable and help him to keep to the times on it.
- **Help your son to organise the information he needs to study.** His teachers will have given him a clear indication of what to study for each Standard.

Help him to organise this information.

- **Ask your son to get out the notes he has been given in his classes and help him organise them.**
- **Ask your son questions about what he has learned.** Explaining something to someone else is a good way to confirm what you have learned.
- **Encourage your son.** Confidence comes from having learned material and then remembering it. Once your son has gone through this process he should be confident that he can cope with the examination.

There are some excellent websites for tips on how to study, such as www.how-to-study.com. Another website that I would recommend, which has on-line practical help with revision techniques and methods, is <https://getrevising.co.uk/make>.

Study It (www.studyit.org.nz) is a New Zealand website which contains revision material related to NCEA English, Mathematics and Science.

Our teachers have also made revision material available by sharing through GOOGLE Classroom.

Teachers will also be running study and revision classes for students during normal class time. Please encourage your son to seek help from his teachers in areas where he is unsure.

END-OF-YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

We expect all 2022 students to attend school on **WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER**. That Wednesday will be our last full school assembly, and will start at 8.55am in the Renner Hall. At this special assembly we will farewell leaving staff and read out the prize list for Prizegiving. Senior students will be free to leave after assembly. Year 9 and 10 will remain for the whole day.

The last official day for all students is **THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER** when we will go to the Indian Centre for prizegiving rehearsal. Senior students will be dismissed at the conclusion of rehearsal.

Year 9 and 10 students will return to school after the rehearsal. They will go to their form room and be given their school report to bring home.

PRIZEGIVING

Prizegiving is the culmination of our year's study and activities and is a full school event. After last year's COVID-eneduced split to Senior and Junior events, it will be great to return to a full-school occasion. It will be held this year on **THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER** in the Indian Centre, starting at 7.30pm.

Please note this date in your diary and we invite you to attend this enjoyable celebration with us. Please also read the "Important Dates and Events" notices carefully and instruct your son to attend at the times when he is required. **All students must attend Prizegiving.**

At Prizegiving, Year 13 students will receive Graduation Certificates. Testimonials will be posted in due course.

Prizegiving is the last official school event for all students, who are then free to go on holiday at its conclusion. Parents of Year 13 school leavers are cordially invited to a Leavers' Supper following Prizegiving.



CULTURAL NEWS

COMMUNITY SERVICE, PERFORMING ARTS & CULTURAL ASSEMBLY

We celebrated the success of students in a range of activities at our annual Performing Arts and Cultural Assembly on Friday 21 October

The following students were presented Honours awards at the assembly:

Fabian Va'auli	Hapa Haka
Liam George	Music
William Gregory	Music
Afa'ese Fa'avae	Polynesian Club
Kianu Flamatai	Polynesian Club

We also recognised several students for their Community Service. The following students received Gold awards for participating in over 35 services to the community:

Alvin Cho
Oscar Cole
Flynn Crocker
Miha Mitcalfe-Matthews
Rex More
Daniel Turner
George Wells

MUSIC EVENING

A music evening was held recently, showcasing our very talented musicians in a variety of genres and styles, while also allowing some to be assessed for NCEA standards in solo and group performances. Those who attended were treated to an exceptional evening of entertainment

It was a great night of high-quality performances. Congratulations to all the musicians who performed and to the staff who organised the event. It emphasised the talent within the student body and the outstanding staff who teach them!



SPORTS NEWS

As we approach the end of the school year, many of our summer codes are again underway. This term Rongotai is pleased to be able to offer athletics, basketball (social), cricket, croquet, floorball, futsal, rugby 7s, volleyball and water polo (juniors). Thank you again to all the parents and volunteers who have put their hands up this term and have made these offerings a possibility.

With exams in progress, the importance of regular exercise and physical activity becomes evident and while it may seem that sport could be a distraction to academia, there is plenty of evidence to

suggest that exercise improves brain function and academic performance.

SPORTS AWARDS ASSEMBLY

We celebrated the success of students in a range of activities at our annual Sports Assembly on Friday 27 October.

The following students were presented Honours awards at the assembly:

George Wells	Cricket
Hamish Black	Floorball
Harison Clulow	Floorball
Thibault Dunkin	Floorball
Hagan Macfadyen	Floorball
Ryan Tunnicliffe	Floorball
Tom Cobden-Cox	Football
Epeli Kilioni	Football
Jude Sneddon	Football
Tom Cobden-Cox	Futsal
Milan Cussins	Hockey
Suneel Patel	Hockey
Afa'ese Fa'avae	Rugby
Pharrell Gray	Rugby
Moli Taulaga	Rugby
Afa'ese Fa'avae	Rugby League
Setu Fa'avae	Rugby League
Sila Fa'avae	Rugby League
Aaron Gollan	Softball
Angus Doddridge	Tennis
Elliot Mance	Ultimate Frisbee
Lachie Reddish	Water Polo

Congratulations to the following boys on winning the award for their individual sports: **Suneel Patel** (Hockey), **Ciaran Bolger** (Softball) and **Lachie Reddish** (Water Polo). Congratulations also to those who were finalists in their individual sports for the College Sport Wellington Sportsperson of the Year Awards. Winners were announced at a dinner on Sunday 6 November.

George Wells	Badminton
Desmond Reddy	Cross Country
Hagan Macfadyen	Floorball
Afa'ese Fa'avae	Rugby League
Elliot Mance	Ultimate Frisbee



Mr Carter with Suneel Patel and Lachie Reddish (Ciaran Bolger was unable to attend)

SPORTS UNIFORM and FEES

A reminder that **all winter sports uniforms should have been returned** by now directly to either the coach or the team manager.

It is preferable that uniforms are returned to the coach or manager rather than directly to the school.

This way the uniforms can be accounted for and it ensures you are not charged for missing uniforms.

A small number of boys still have sports fees outstanding. Failure to settle these will mean your son may not be able to play sport next year. If you are unsure if you are up to date with your fees please contact the school office.

Finally, with NCEA exams having already begun and Junior exams coming up, I would like to emphasise that it is now the time for your son to really push himself, firstly to achieve his qualification, but also to concentrate on getting the highest level of achievement possible – boys should be pushing for Excellence grades and being 'the best they can be' in their academic achievement.

Kind regards,

Kevin Carter
PRINCIPAL

CSW SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR

REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED TO RONGOTAI COLLEGE BOARD

October saw the changeover of Student Representatives on the Board. **Jamal Howell** has represented students on the Board for the past year. He has done an outstanding job of bringing student views to the Board and representing students in the decision making process. The governance of our school is enhanced by young men such as Jamal and their perspective on progress and school initiatives.



The election for the 2022-2023 Student Representative on the Rongotai College Board has been held, and **Jack Leong** of Year 11 was elected as Student Representative.

Jack attended his first Board meeting on 24 October. We are looking forward to his perspective and contribution over the coming year.

RONGOTAI COLLEGE

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RONGOTAI COLLEGE



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

2022

Tuesday 29 November

Paid Union Meeting

Wednesday 30 November, Thursday 1 & Friday 2 December

Year 10 Camp

Wednesday 30 November & Thursday 1 December

Year 9 Survivor Rongotai

Friday 2 December

Year 9 Social Action Day

Monday 5, Tuesday 6 December

Juniors – Contextualised learning

Wednesday 7 December**ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL.**

School begins at the normal time of 8.55am.

Seniors will be released at approximately 11am.

Thursday 8 December**ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL**

The day begins at 8.55am with Form Period at school, then Prizegiving rehearsal at the Indian Centre. All students will be dismissed at approximately 11.30am.

Year 9 and 10 students will return to school after prizegiving rehearsal. They will go to their form room and be given their school report.

Evening - PRIZEGIVING**ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND IN SCHOOL UNIFORM.**

Students report to the Indian Centre at 7pm.

Prizegiving starts at 7.30pm.

Friday 9 December

Teacher only day.

Friday 16 December

College office and shop close.

2023

Monday 16 January

College office opens.

Office will be open normal hours (8.15am to 4.30pm)

Monday 23 January

Office closed – Wellington Anniversary

Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 January

Year 11, 12 and 13 course confirmation interviews (please make appointment by logging on to School Interviews - www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and entering the event code **fntj7**)

Monday 30 January

All students report to the Renner Hall for assembly at 8.55am.

COLLEGE SHOP

Uniform and stationery items are sold in our college shop. Leading up to the start of the 2023 school year the opening hours will be 8.30am to 4.30pm from Tuesday 24 January.

Credit card and EFTPOS facilities are available.

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