



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 10, Term 3 (30 September), 2022

COMING EVENTS

Friday 30 September

Last day Term 3

Monday 17 October

First day Term 4

Rongotai College Pasifika Parents' Asosi at 6.30pm in the staffroom

Thursday 20 October

Sports & cultural team photos taken
Board Meeting 6pm in the staffroom

Friday 21 October

Arts & Cultural Awards Assembly, 12.40pm in the Renner Hall

Monday 25 October

Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 26 October

Parents' Association Meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom

Friday 28 October

Sports Awards Assembly 12.40pm in the Renner Hall
Food Fair in the Renner Hall

Tuesday 1 November

Last day for selected senior students before external exams

Monday 7 November

NCEA external exams begin

Friday 11 November

Testing day for Year 9 students for 2023

2022 TERM DATES

Term 3 Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September

Term 4 Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December

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

Today brings us to the end of Term 3 and a well-deserved break for our boys and staff. It is time for all students to reflect on their progress.

Year 11-13 students have completed formative exams and they should be a signpost to where they are currently positioned in terms of NCEA external exams. End-of-year reports will be emailed to parents of senior students and should be visible on the parent portal for senior students from Wednesday 5 October; paper copies will be posted in the first week of Term 4.

Senior students will have just two weeks at school in Term 4 before study leave is granted to some with NCEA external exams beginning a week later (7 November). For your information, I have included the new NCEA exam timetable as part of this newsletter.

STAFF FAREWELL

Mr **Regan McNab** leaves Rongotai College today, to take up a position at Rotorua Boys' High School.



Thank you Regan for all your work with our students over four years, and for the great coffees! Best of luck for your move back to your home town of Rotorua.

TESTIMONIALS

If your son is leaving Rongotai College at the end of this year and wants a testimonial, he must pick up the appropriate form from the College Shop; these are due in on Friday 28 October. We process a

large number of testimonials each year and time is needed to do this. Late submission of the form means we cannot guarantee that your son will receive his testimonial at the end of the school year.

ACADEMIC NEWS

SCIENCE FAIR

Rongotai students recently competed in the NIWA Wellington Science Fair with several of our students winning prizes.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Ben Young (Engineering New Zealand Award, New Zealand Institute of Chemistry Award)

Flynn Gordon, Alexis Dunkin, and Edward Holben (Engineering New Zealand Award)

Oliver Brooke and Fletcher Cowan (Highly Commended Award).

Thank you to all parents, teachers, and students involved for what were transformative Science Inquiries



from left: Ben Young, Edward Holben, Alexi Dunkin and Flynn Gordon

INTERNATIONAL

With the reopening of New Zealand's borders international students are beginning to return. As a result, we have received many

applications from international students wanting to study at our school.

We are now looking for more families to host these students.

Currently we have students who will be studying at Rongotai College for periods from 8 weeks up to a full year. They are aiming to be here by the start of Term 1 in 2023.

If you have a spare room and would like to host an international student, or know of anyone who would like to, or would like further information about the requirements and benefits of becoming a host parent, please email international@rongotai.school.nz

TERTIARY ENVIRONMENT

For boys who are planning to study at a university or polytech in 2023, applications for some institutions are already open and others will open soon.

In order to complete an enrolment, proof of identity, proof of citizenship or residency, and previous academic records may be required. If a copy of proof of identity and proof of citizenship or residency are being supplied, these must be certified.

A certified copy must include a stamp/endorsement. The certifying statement must be clear and legible and completed for each page of the documents submitted. Each page must be correctly witnessed and be stamped with full name, title, signature, and dated.

The website of the university or polytechnic your son is applying to will have details of required documents and their certification.

The Rongotai College Careers website is a useful tool that is updated regularly with current information. It can be accessed on the school website: <https://sites.google.com/rongotai.school.nz/careers-rc/home>



LEAVERS' BALL

The highlight of the college social calendar, the annual Leavers' Ball, was held on Friday 23 September at The Pines. The theme this year was 'Casino'.

It was an excellent event, attended by 130 senior students and their partners. The behaviour of students was outstanding and I would like to congratulate them on the manner in which they conducted themselves.

I would like to thank Mr Sparks and the Ball Committee for a very well-organised and successful event, enjoyed by all who attended.



KAPA HAKA

Our Kapa Haka recently returned from the National Kapa Haka competition in Whanganui. This was the first ever stand for Rongotai and Wellington East as a roopu at this prestigious event and they represented their whānau, school and rohe with pride and performed well.



MUSIC

Visiting Artists

The music department recently hosted classical guitar specialist, **Gunter Herbig**. Year 9 students have been studying different periods of musical history from medieval to 20th century. Gunter brought this music to life by playing pieces from four different periods. It was a great opportunity to hear such beautiful music played by an expert in the field.

The Year 11 students benefited from song-writing sessions with local legend, **Aslan Rowlands**, who has come in once a week

RONGOTAI COLLEGE BOARD

Congratulations to the following candidates who have been elected to the Board:

Guido Ballara
Louise Carter
Justine Crawford
Sylvia Soma
John Soulis

Thank you to the two other candidates who stood for election but were unsuccessful.

Congratulations to also Mr Dinesh Bhindi who was elected to the position of staff representative.

At a special board meeting, Louise Carter was made the Presiding Member with Guido Ballara as Deputy.

The first full meeting of the new Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday 20 October.

throughout this term, helping boys write songs.

RockQuest

Congratulations to **Edward Holben**, whose band 'Bright Sky' was selected for the national final of RockQuest in Auckland last weekend. This is a fantastic achievement!

Musicworks Ensemble Festival of Aotearoa (MEFA)

We took a record number of six ensembles to this national competition, now in its eighth year, yesterday. They were - **Junior Combo, TG Stompers, Django Uncaged, DoL Combo, The Double Up** and the **Rongotai College Big Band**.

This festival runs over three days, incorporating brass band, orchestral, concert bands and jazz bands. All our groups performed superbly with **TG Stompers** (led by Arts Prefect Liam George) being awarded Best Combo.



Junior Combo rehearsing – from left Billy Smith, Leo Stein, Edward Holben, Henry Dickson, Jackson Garland and Leo Powdrell.

Wellington Allstars Youth Big Band

This audition-entry ensemble features the best of Wellington's extensive jazz talent and students from many schools auditioned. Rongotai College is well-represented with seven of 21 musicians from our school.

Jazz Bandit National Competition

This much-anticipated competition will occur on **Saturday 1 October** at the NZ School of Music, conceived and organised by NZ's premier jazz musician, **Rodger Fox**. Rodger envisioned a nationwide competition for the jazz genre. The Rongotai College Big Band won a place in the final ten of big bands around the country. The music is built around jazz arrangements of classic kiwi rock songs by Dave Dobbyn.

Music Evening

This year's Music Evening will be held on **Tuesday 25 October**. Special guest is music songwriting mentor, Aslan Rowlands. It is a showcase of our eclectic department and is always a night to remember, enjoyed by all. Details to follow.



SERVICE NEWS

BLOOD DONATIONS

As part of our service to the community, we had NZ Blood Service at the college for the second time this year. Staff and students (16 years or older) were invited to donate blood, and 71 arrived to donate. This has now become a regular event at Rongotai College.



SPORTS NEWS

WINTER TOURNAMENT WEEK

Our Premier Football, Hockey and Basketball teams took part in their respective Nationals Tournaments recently, while basketball and rugby teams played in regional tournaments.

The **1st XI football** team travelled to Napier to play in the Lotto Premiership with the top teams in the country. The team battled hard all week and had some quality performances against some top schools. They came away with a 31st National ranking with a win in their last game 4 - 2 over St John's College from Hamilton.

The **1st XI hockey** team travelled to North Harbour to compete in the premier Rankin Cup/India Shield tournament. The boys had an up and down week but secured a place in the Top 16 for the first time since

1996! An outstanding achievement and they will be proud of their final playing of 16th in NZ.

The **Senior A basketball** team placed 8th at their Regional tournament in Wellington after going down 60 - 90 against Napier Boys' High School in their play-off

The **Junior A basketball** team travelled to New Plymouth for the Regional tournament; after a solid tournament, they placed 4th, going down in the bronze final 66 - 75 to Palmerston North Boys' High School.



Our **U14 and U15 rugby** teams took part in the rugby festivals played locally. The U14s had a great couple of days and the U15s finished 7th after a well fought 20 -14 win over St Bernards in their last game.



FLOORBALL

The National Secondary Schools' Championships were held at the ASB Centre last weekend. Congratulations to our junior team who won gold and have now secured four of the eight titles since its inception - well done boys! Well done also to our senior team who finished second.

Congratulations to the seven Rongotai students who have been named in the New Zealand U19 Floorball team to contest in the World Cup qualifier in Wellington

this week. They are **Hamish Black, Harison Clulow, Thibault Dunkin, Jaidan Kesry, Marcus Locke, Hagan Macfadyen** and **Ryan Tunnicliffe**.

BASKETBALL

It has been another successful season of basketball with Rongotai filling out spots in the Top 4. Congratulations to the Senior C team that took out their championship with a tight 40-39 win over Tawa College. Special mention to our Junior B team who went down in a tight final. Our Senior A team lost their final but were able to secure the Eddie Monahan Cup after defeating our neighbours St Pat's Town.

FOOTBALL

The 1st XI narrowly missed out on the top 4 and finished 5th overall in the local competition.

Congratulations to the **2nd XI** on a fantastic season. They finished 7th in the Premier Reserve grade, playing many other schools' 1st XIs. They also won the RC cup for the first time. This is an event held at Rongotai for teams that do not attend Nationals Tournaments, and was a great result for our lads.

HOCKEY

The season is now over and it has been a memorable one. In the local competition the team lost the semi-final to Wellington College in a game for the ages. After tying up the game 2 all in the last minute they eventually went down in the shootouts. They then defeated HIBS in another shoot-out to finish the season in third place.

Congratulations to **SUNEEL PATEL** on his selection into the NZ U18 Hockey squad. He will attend the Super Camp over the term break. This is a great reflection of his performances and leadership this season



RUGBY LEAGUE

Our senior team has gone back-to-back and won the CSW Rugby League 9s competition. After the event not being played last year because of COVID the boys were able to get the job done. This was supplemented by a solid performance from our junior team which also had a great day and just missed out on the final.



McEVEDY SHIELD

After being postponed in March due to Covid restrictions, the McEvedy Shield event was held in September as an athlete-only event. The Rongotai team had a successful day where we finished with 83 points in 4th place.

To put this result in perspective, over the last three McEvedy Shields our totals have been 63 in 2020, 38 in 2019 and just 29 in 2018. This year was the best result since 2010. This year is also our third best result in the last 15 McEvedys (85 points - 2010 and 125 points in 2007).

There were many top performances from our athletes and several PBs. Special mention must be made of **Jamal Howell** and **Gordon Sio** who finished 1st and 2nd in the Open 110m Hurdles.

Other notable finishes were:

- **Marius Filo-Smith** 1st U15 100m and 200m
- **Jamal Howell** 1st Open 110m Hurdles
- **Desmond Reddy** 1st U14 3km and 1500m 3rd 800m
- **Tane Robinson** 1st U16 Javelin
- **Xavior Sola** 1st U15 Shot Put and Discus
- **Va'a Tui** 1st U16 Discus (2m off the record) and 3rd Shot Put
- **Jaidan Kesry** 2nd Open High Jump
- **AJ Liumahetau** 2nd Open Shot Put
- **Teddy Stanley** 2nd U15 400m
- **Gordon Sio** 2nd Open 110m Hurdles

- **John Tyrell** 2nd U14 Shot Put and 4th Discus
- **Zayd Adam** 3rd U16 200m and 4th 100m, hurdles and Triple Jump
- **Harison Clulow** 3rd U15 1500m and 4th 800m
- **Epeli Kiloni** 3rd open 800m and 4th 400m
- **Nico Metuariki** 3rd U16 Discus
- **Flynn Rapson** 3rd U14 High Jump
- **Mika Ulugia-Mao** 3rd Open Discus

Congratulations to all the boys who competed. They did themselves, their whānau and their school proud!



SUMMER SPORTS

Summer sports teams are now being confirmed so please check the sports noticeboard for team lists.

Finally, it is vital that you continue to keep reminding your son of his study programme and study habits as this term progresses. NCEA exams are only five weeks away, and in some subjects NCEA internal assessments are on-going. Your son's subject teachers, form teacher and year level Dean are available for help and advice and you should encourage him to talk to them. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to email any of these staff members.

Kind regards,

Kevin Carter

PRINCIPAL



COMMUNITY NEWS

RONGOTAI COLLEGE

FOOD

FAIR

October 28th 5:30 to 8:00

rain or shine

RONGOTAI COLLEGE FOOD FAIR

Rongotai College Parents' Association Annual Food Fair is being held on **Friday 28 October**. Some help is needed in the following areas:

- Running or leading a food stall (we can help source & pay for ingredients, etc)
- Running/leading the Dessert Stall - most of the desserts sourced from parents of Year 9 and 10 baking contributions
- Year 9 and 10 parents will be requested to bake something for the cake/dessert stall
- Make a donation - something for a raffle, some food for a stall, etc.
- Volunteering to help on the night - at a stall of your choice, or be allocated tasks
- Distribute Food Fair Flyers to letterboxes near your house
- Perform on stage if you have some entertainment talent you'd like to share
- Spread the news of the event to your friends and family
- Visit Neighbourly and like the event
- Pre-order Samosas (vegetable & butter chicken) - more details to come
- Pre-order hangi - more details to come
- And finally marking the evening in your diary to BE THERE

If you can help in any way, please email the Rongotai College Parents Association (parents.association@rongotai.school.nz) or call Gordon (021) 337 666 or Rachel (027) 712 6061.

RONGOTAI COLLEGE

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www.rongotai.school.nz
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2022 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Exams available digitally shown in blue

Date	Time	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Scholarship
Mon 7 Nov	9.30 am	Te Reo Rangatira	Physics	Business Studies	Agricultural & Horticultural Science
	2.00 pm	Chinese Chinese (Mandarin)	Media Studies	Dance	Calculus
Tue 8 Nov	9.30 am	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Art History	Statistics	
	2.00 pm	Geography	Spanish	Te Reo Rangatira Cook Islands Māori	Drama
Wed 9 Nov	9.30 am	Lea Faka-Tonga	Mathematics & Statistics		Biology
	2.00 pm	Music	Accounting	History	French
Thu 10 Nov	9.30 am	Mathematics & Statistics		Making Music Japanese	Classical Studies
	2.00 pm	Korean	Drama	Samoan	Statistics
CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY (Fri 11 Nov)					
WEEKEND					
Mon 14 Nov	9.30 am	French	Te Reo Māori	Calculus	Samoan
	2.00 pm	Economics	Korean	Agricultural & Horticultural Science Chinese German	
Tue 15 Nov	9.30 am	Science	Social Studies		History
	2.00 pm	Samoan Gagana Sāmoa Spanish	Geography	Accounting	
Wed 16 Nov	9.30 am	Cook Islands Māori Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani	English		Religious Studies
	2.00 pm	History	Chinese	Biology	German
Thu 17 Nov	9.30 am	English	Lea Faka-Tonga Cook Islands Māori		English
	2.00 pm	Drama	Chemistry	Health	Physics
Fri 18 Nov	9.30 am	Business Studies	History	Chemistry	Te Reo Rangatira
	2.00 pm	Biology	Music	Media Studies	Accounting
WEEKEND					
Mon 21 Nov	9.30 am	Art History Te Reo Māori	Japanese	Latin Social Studies Psychology	Chemistry
	2.00 pm	Classical Studies	Health	Economics	
Tue 22 Nov	9.30 am	Media Studies	Earth & Space Science	Drama Lea Faka-Tonga	Geography
	2.00 pm	Chemistry Chemistry & Biology	Classical Studies		Economics
Wed 23 Nov	9.30 am	Accounting		English	
	2.00 pm	Home Economics	Economics	Korean	Media Studies
Thu 24 Nov	9.30 am	German	Biology	Geography	
	2.00 pm	Dance	Te Reo Rangatira	Physics	
Fri 25 Nov	9.30 am	Physics Physics Earth & Space Science	Home Economics	Classical Studies	Te Reo Māori
	2.00 pm		German	Home Economics	Art History
WEEKEND					
WESTLAND ANNIVERSARY DAY (Mon 28 Nov)					
Tue 29 Nov	9.30 am	Japanese	Latin	Te Reo Māori	
	2.00 pm		French	Spanish	Latin
Wed 30 Nov	9.30 am	Religious Studies	Business Studies	French	Japanese
	2.00 pm	Latin	Agricultural & Horticultural Science		
Thu 1 Dec	9.30 am	Health	Education for Sustainability Samoan	Earth & Space Science	Chinese
	2.00 pm			Music Studies	Spanish
Fri 2 Dec	9:30 am	Social Studies	Dance	Art History	Earth & Space Science