



# RONGOTAI COLLEGE

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 6, Term 4 (17 November), 2023

### COMING EVENTS

**Monday 20 November**

Asosi meeting, 6pm in the college's staffroom

**Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 November**

Junior Exams

**Friday 24 November**

Catch up day for Junior exams – only students who have an exam to attend school

**Wednesday 28 & Thursday 29 November**

Tamatoa Camp at Mt Holdsworth  
Year 9 Survivor

**Wednesday 29 November to Friday 1 December**

Year 10 Camp  
Year 9 Survivor & Social Action Day

**Thursday 30 November**

Board meeting 6pm in the staffroom

**Friday 1 December**

Fiafia Night

**Wednesday 6 December**

Full school assembly – seniors return

**Thursday 7 December**

Prizegiving 7.30pm at the Indian Centre, Kibbirnie

**Friday 8 December**

Teacher only day

**Friday 15 December**

School office closes

### 2024 TERM DATES

**Term 1** Wednesday 31 January to Friday 12 April

**Term 2** Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July

**Term 3** Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September

**Term 4** Monday 14 October to Friday 13 December

It has been an extremely busy Term 4 to date. NCEA external exams for Years 11-13 students are in full swing, while Year 9 and 10 students will sit their exams next week.



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, are available on our website.

**Examinations for Year 9 and 10 students** are scheduled for **WEDNESDAY 22 & THURSDAY 23 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 have been giving students advice on what material will be in the exams over the past few weeks. Friday 24 November is reserved for students to sit catch-up exams if they have missed any on the Wednesday or Thursday. Only students sitting exams are required to attend school on that day.

### STUDENT CELLPHONE USE

We recently started trialing of "no phones during the school day".



This seems to have gone well so far and we thank our boys for being active in not using their phones, and thank whānau for your positive support and feedback on this initiative.

## 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.

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 / exam. 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](http://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>.

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 2023 students to attend school on **WEDNESDAY 6 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 7 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. It will be held this year on **THURSDAY 7 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.

### ERO

ERO maintains a regular review programme to evaluate and report on the education and care of young people in the schools. Our school worked alongside ERO to write our Profile Report. This type of report will only happen once as part of our initial engagement with Te Ara Huarau. The profile report reflects our strategic goals and a shared evaluation focus on one or more areas that are important to us as we work together to improve outcomes for all our learners. ERO, like us, has a strong focus on equity and excellence. Future reporting will show our progress and achievement towards meeting the goals we have set. Public reports like the Profile Report are published on [ERO's website](http://ERO's website).



## SERVICE NEWS

### SHAVE FOR A CURE

At the end of last term a number of students and staff had their heads shaved for Shave for a Cure. The most notable shave was of Rex More who had not had his hair cut for seven years. Rex donated his hair to the Cancer Society to be used to make real hair wigs.



Brilliant work boys - you should be very proud of yourselves for raising over \$13,000!

### CPR EDUCATION

Our Year 9 and 10 students were involved in the World "Restart a Heart" Day. It included a presentation, practical sessions, and a live simulation involving First Responders. Thank you to the New Zealand Resuscitation Council, Wellington Free Ambulance, New Zealand Red Cross, and FENZ for bringing this to our school.



## 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:

<b>Luke Honiss</b>	Music
<b>Rex More</b>	Music
<b>Zayd Adam</b>	Polynesian Club
<b>Ezra Su'a</b>	Polynesian Club

We also recognised several students for their Community Service. The following students received Silver awards:

**Charlie Crawford**  
**Harry Florentine**  
**Angus Galloway**  
**Oli Stewart**  
**Nysi Soulis**  
**Ayman Zewada**

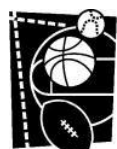
### WILD AT HEART AWARDS

Congratulations to Arts Prefect and Interact Club President, Rex More, who was awarded the 'Wild at Heart Spirit Award' at the Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards presentation.

Rex's community service over a number of years, including the success of the Shave-for-a-Cure fundraiser in 2023 was recognised with a scholarship presented by the Wellington International Airport CEO, Matt Clarke.



Mr Carter and Rex More at the Awards Dinner.



## SPORTS NEWS

As we approach the end of the school year, many of our summer codes are 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:

<b>Xavior Sola</b>	Athletics
<b>Luther Te Rito</b>	Basketball
<b>Max Petherick</b>	Bowls
<b>Eddie Hoben</b>	Cricket
<b>Harison Clulow</b>	Floorball
<b>Marcus Locke</b>	Floorball
<b>Hagan Macfadyen</b>	Floorball
<b>Luke Hardy</b>	Football
<b>Nysi Soulis</b>	Futsal
<b>Harison Clulow</b>	Hockey
<b>Prashaan Ishver</b>	Hockey
<b>Rico Taylor</b>	Hockey
<b>Bertie McGuigan</b>	Mountain Biking
<b>Sila Fa'avae</b>	Rugby League
<b>Nico Metuariki</b>	Rugby League
<b>Kayan Samuelu</b>	Rugby League
<b>Xavior Sola</b>	Rugby League
<b>Anthony Vaigafa</b>	Rugby League
<b>Arron Gollan</b>	Softball
<b>Hugo Nevin-Matterson</b>	Surfing
<b>Aaron Lan</b>	Table Tennis
<b>Elliot Mance</b>	Ultimate Frisbee
<b>Aaron Lan</b>	Volleyball
<b>Tom Marsters</b>	Volleyball
<b>Kea Reid</b>	Volleyball

Congratulations also to **Luke Hardy** who was named the Maori Sportsperson of the Year.

### CSW SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the following boys on winning the award for their individual sports: **Hagan Macfadyen** (Floorball) and **Elliot Mance** (Ultimate Frisbee). 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 5 November.



Elliot Mance (left) and Hagan Macfadyen

Other finalists were:

<b>Max Petherick</b>	Bowls
<b>Desmond Reddy</b>	Cross Country / Road Race
<b>Bertie McGuigan</b>	Cycling
<b>Harison Clulow</b>	Floorball
<b>Nysi Soulis</b>	Football
<b>Seti Fa'avae</b>	Rugby League
<b>Arron Gollan</b>	Softball
<b>Aaron Lan</b>	Table Tennis
<b>Gordon Sio</b>	Volleyball



From left: Desmond Reddy, Nysi Soulis, Harison Clulow, Elliot Mance, Hagan Macfadyen, Aaron Lan and Bertie McGuigan

### SHOOTING

Congratulations to **Tipene Paku** (Year 12) who recently competed in the National IPSC (International Practical



Shooting Confederation) Championships. After shooting more than 500 rounds of handgun target shooting, he won silver in his division.

### 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.

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**

Finally, with NCEA exams in full swing 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

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED TO RONGOTAI COLLEGE BOARD



September saw the election of the Student Representative on the Rongotai College Board. **Jack Leong** has represented our students on the Board this year and was re-elected for a further one-year term.

Jack 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 Jack and their perspective on progress and school initiatives.

## RONGOTAI COLLEGE

170 Coutts St, Kilbirnie, Wellington  
PO Box 14-063, Kilbirnie, Wellington, 6022  
PHONE: +64 4 939 3050  
EMAIL: [the.principal@rongotai.school.nz](mailto:the.principal@rongotai.school.nz)



[www.rongotai.school.nz](http://www.rongotai.school.nz)

[www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege](https://www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege)

[www.youtube.com/RongotaiCollegeNZ](https://www.youtube.com/RongotaiCollegeNZ)

# RONGOTAI COLLEGE



## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

### 2023

#### **Wednesday 29 & Thursday 30 November & Friday 1 December**

Year 10 Camp

#### **Wednesday 29 & Thursday 30 November**

Year 9 Survivor Rongotai

#### **Friday 1 December**

Year 9 Social Action Day

#### **Monday 4 & Tuesday 5 December**

Juniors – Contextualised learning

#### **Wednesday 6 December**

**ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL.**

School begins at the normal time of 8.55am.

Seniors will be released at approximately 11am.

#### **Thursday 7 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 8 December**

Teacher only day.

#### **Friday 15 December**

College office and shop close.

### 2024

#### **Monday 15 January**

College office opens.

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

#### **Monday 22 January**

Office closed – Wellington Anniversary

#### **Thursday 25 and Friday 26 January**

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

#### **Wednesday 31 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 2024 school year the opening hours will be 8.30am to 4.30pm from Tuesday 23 January.

Credit card and EFTPOS facilities are available.

## RONGOTAI COLLEGE

170 Coutts St, Kilbirnie, Wellington  
PO Box 14-063, Kilbirnie, Wellington, 6022  
PHONE: +64 4 939 3050  
EMAIL: [the.principal@rongotai.school.nz](mailto:the.principal@rongotai.school.nz)



[www.rongotai.school.nz](http://www.rongotai.school.nz)

[www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege](https://www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege)

[www.youtube.com/RongotaiCollegeNZ](https://www.youtube.com/RongotaiCollegeNZ)