



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 4 Term 2 (May), 2024

COMING EVENTS

Thursday 30 May

Board meeting at 6pm in the staffroom

Friday 31 May

Teacher Only Day – Curriculum Day

Monday 3 June

King's Birthday holiday

Wednesday 5 June

Wellington College traditional sports exchange at Rongotai College

Friday 7 June

Rongotai Experience
– no school for most students

Tuesday 11 June

Open Evening from 6.30pm

Monday 17 June

Rongotai College Pasifika Parents' Asosi at 6pm in the staffroom

Monday 24 June

Board meeting at 6pm in the staffroom

Friday 28 June

Matariki public holiday

Tuesday 2 July

Rongotai College Parents' Association Quiz Night

Friday 5 July

Last day Term 2

Monday 22 July

First day Term 3

2024 TERM DATES

Term 2 last day - Friday 5 July

Term 3 Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September

Term 4 Monday 14 October to Friday 13 December

2025 TERM DATES

Term 1 Monday 27 January to Friday 11 April

Term 2 Monday 28 April to Friday 26 June

Term 3 Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September

Term 4 Monday 6 October to Friday 5 December

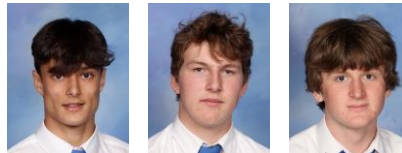
Dear parents and whānau

We are now at the end of the fourth week of Term 2 and moving into the second half of the term. It has generally been a good start to the term. Attendance has been satisfactory, although a few too many boys have been arriving late in the mornings!

PREFECTS

At the start of term we added a further five prefects to our Student Leadership Team.

Congratulations to **Harison Clulow**, **Angus Galloway**, **Jimmy McKirdy**, **Luke Pearson-McGruer** and **Quentin Stark** on their appointment as Prefects.



Harison Clulow Angus Galloway Jimmy McKirdy



Luke Pearson-McGruer Quentin Stark

FAREWELL TO STAFF

In the first week of this term we farewelled two of our staff members

Mr **Hemant**

Lala has been the Sports Director for the past five years and he has left us to take up a position at College Sport Wellington. We wish you all the best Hemant in your new role.



Mr Bevan King also finished his teaching position at Rongotai College. Bevan has been with us for

Over the next few weeks there will be some changes to our school days:

TEACHER ONLY DAY

Friday 31 May is a Teacher-Only Day for many local secondary schools. There will be no school for students that day.

The focus will be reviewing courses and assessment programmes for changes in NCEA and the refreshed curriculum.

RONGOTAI EXPERIENCE

Friday 7 June is Rongotai Experience day so no school for Rongotai students.

OPEN EVENING

School will finish at 12.40pm on **Tuesday 11 June** to allow staff to prepare for Open Evening.

two and a half years. We wish him well for the future.



ENROLMENT EVENTS

The first 2025 enrolment event is **RONGOTAI EXPERIENCE**, when Year 8 boys from our contributing schools come to Rongotai College to experience our school on **Friday 7 June**.

There will be no formal classes for your son(s) on this day although some will be asked to help on the day. If you require your son to attend school on this day he will be supervised. Contact the office beforehand if this is the case and please tell him to report to the office at 8.55am.

The second important event is **OPEN EVENING** which will be held on **Tuesday 11 June**. The evening begins at 6.30pm and concludes around 8pm.

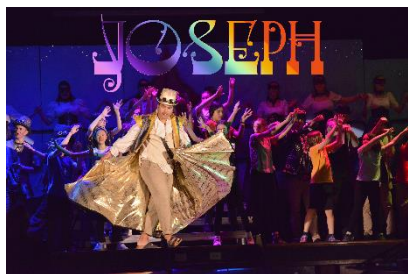
Departments will be setting up displays for the Open Evening from 12.40pm onwards. Some students will be required to help with this, but if your son is not required **he will be released from school at 12.40pm**.



CULTURAL NEWS

PRODUCTION

A real highlight of the year to date has been the very successful season of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (that finished last week). We were all very impressed by the quality of performances and the wonderful way the 100 or so students in the cast, orchestra, back-stage and lighting crews from Rongotai College, Wellington East Girls' College, Onslow College, St Catherine's College and Seatoun School worked together.



I would like to extend my congratulations to all the students who participated – their talent and their enjoyment was evident to all! There were some outstanding performances by principals **TJ Robnison** (Joseph) and **Leo Powdrell** (Narrator), who were supported by a fine cast and outstanding orchestra.



Also, I extend my thanks to all the staff who gave their time so willingly and readily for the production. In

particular, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ms Tasker (Director/Producer), Mr Crayford (Musical Director) and Ms McAuley (Artistic / Wardrobe Director). Well done to everyone!



MUSIC

Music students are preparing groups for various competitions in the region – Young Jazz Bandit for the big band, the Manawatu Jazz Festival Youth Competition and the Musicworks Ensemble Festival of Aotearoa (MEFA) for the big band and combos, and the barbershop quartet and chorus for an upcoming event.

An all-comers choir has been formed and is going well. If your son likes to sing, he should be in the group. It rehearses in the Music room on a Tuesday at morning break. Singing does wonders for your health and well-being!

The major musical production of Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat has been of great significance for our young instrumentalists playing in the orchestra pit. They have had the opportunity to be part of something big, and get to play alongside experienced, in some cases professional-level, musicians. It's an experience they'll remember all their lives.



The orchestra rehearsing for Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat



SPORTS NEWS

Winter sport is now underway for hundreds of our boys. All our teams, including premier grades, are playing grading games or have already started their season campaigns.

CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to everyone who competed in the college's annual Cross Country event. The top three juniors were **HUGO CAMPION** (1st), **SEB CAMPION** (2nd) and **OSCAR POLITINI** (3rd). In the seniors, our top three finishers were **DESMOND REDDY** (1st), **SAM JONES** (2nd) and **MANAWA MITCALFE MATTHEWS** (3rd).

Recently 20 students competed in the College Sport Wellington Cross Country Relays held at Wakefield Park in Island Bay. For many students this was their first competition representing the college.

The senior boys started the day with a good run from **DESMOND REDDY** on the first lap. He finished with the second fastest time overall on the day, with the senior team finishing 6th in Wellington.



The Junior Boys finished in 7th place. **HUGO CAMPION** had the team's fastest run and the 8th fastest in the Junior Boys' Grade.



Our Year 9 boys were enthusiastic, finishing the day in 6th place. **SEB CAMPION** had a great result, finishing 6th fastest in the grade.

Well done to all the boys who competed.

FLOORBALL

Congratulations to **Harison Clulow** who has been selected in the New Zealand Mens' Floorball team to participate in the World Floorball Cup Qualifier in the Philippines in May. Wishing you and your team every success, Harison.



BASKETBALL

The Senior A Basketball team has played two rounds of grading to date with a first up loss to HIBS (80-69), followed by a good 93-65 win over Onslow College. They play their last grading game against Otaki tonight, hoping to win and confirm a spot in the Premier Grade.

FOOTBALL

The 1st XI Football team has started the season well, with wins over Kapiti College (5-0), Paraparaumu College (3-1) and Onslow College. Well done **Luke Hardy**, who leads the way with 6 goals already this season. They take on St Pat's Silverstream at Rongotai tomorrow to cement their place in the Premier Youth Football grade and qualify for the Premier National Tournament.

HOCKEY

At the start of term, the 1st XI Hockey team travelled to Hamilton to play in the ANZAC pre-season tournament hosted by St Paul's Collegiate.

The team played well against traditionally strong hockey schools in the North Island with some close losses but winning against HIBS (1-0) and Tawa (2-1). They sit in second place. They have a bye this weekend.

RUGBY

The 1st XV play against Tawa College at Rongotai in its first Premier fixture of the season on Saturday. Last week they came away with a solid 36 - 12 win over Taita College, their last in grading game.

Wellington College Traditional

Our premier teams will be focused on their weekend fixtures, but will also have in the back of their minds the Annual Winter Traditional against Wellington College on Wednesday 5 June at Rongotai College. Teams involved include Senior A Basketball (at Ākau Tangi), 1st XI Hockey (at NHS at 11.30am), 1st XI Football and 1st XV Rugby. Football and Rugby are at school kicking off at 1.30pm and 1.40pm respectively. ***Students not involved in the exchange are expected to be at school as normal until Period 4 and will then be dismissed.***

BEHAVIOUR IN SPORT

It is a timely reminder that sport is a PRIVILEGE and, as competitors, coaches and parents, we must live our school's B.E.S.T values at all times. In a sporting context, this means:

BE RESPECTFUL to your teammates, coaches and to the opposition, their coaches, managers, spectators and their facilities when playing away from home.

ENCOURAGE BROTHERHOOD - nobody needs to be put down in order for you to get above them; prop them up and we can all achieve - look

out for your brothers and be a good team mate!

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE - Championships are not won in May. Look for the incremental improvement in your team as a collective and work together to achieve goals.

TAKE PRIDE - wear the correct Rongotai College sports uniform and remember the badge on the front of your shirt is who you play for.

PHYSIO

We have been fortunate to gain the services of a physio on-site at the college. Rehab Co have agreed to bring one of their mobile vans to school and treat students on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Bookings for this service are being taken at the school office.



Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and community volunteers who work tirelessly to provide opportunities for all boys at Rongotai to enjoy and experience sport and other activities. Please make sure, if your boy is in a sports team this year, you acknowledge the effort from these people who coach, manage and provide transportation in order for your son to have such wonderful opportunities.

Ngā mihi nui

Kevin Carter
PRINCIPAL

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