



# RONGOTAI COLLEGE

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 10, Term 3, 2018

### COMING EVENTS

**Friday 28 September**

Last day Term 3

**Monday 15 October**

First day Term 4

**Friday 19 October**

Cultural Assembly 11.30am in the Renner Hall

**Monday 22 October**

Labour Day Holiday

**Thursday 25 October**

Board of Trustees' meeting 6pm in the Mackay Library  
Parents' Association Quiz Evening at The Pines.

**Friday 26 October**

Sports Assembly, 11.30am in the Renner Hall  
Senior Reports posted home  
Last day for Testimonial applications

**Friday 2 November**

Last day for selected seniors who qualify for study leave  
Ethnic Food Fair 6pm in the Renner Hall

**Tuesday 6 November**

Testing day for Year 9 students for 2018

**Wednesday 7 November**

NCEA External exams begin

**Thursday 6 December**

Prize Giving

As Term 3 draws to a close, and we break for the September/October vacation, 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. End-of-year reports will be posted home and visible on the parent portal for senior students in Week 2 of next term (26 October).



NCEA external exams begin on Wednesday 7 November, so these holidays are an ideal time to rest for a week and then begin preparation for externals.

Next term, teachers will be running study and revision classes for students. Please encourage your son to seek help from his teachers in areas where he is unsure.

Art and Photography students will also have opportunities to work on their external portfolios during the holidays. This is done in consultation with the teachers and reflect the goodwill of Ms McAuley and Ms Trafford, in giving up time in the holidays for their students. Make the most of the opportunities boys!

I would also like to point out that **Junior Examinations** for Year 9 and 10 students are scheduled to start on **Monday 19 November**. An examination timetable will be issued next term, but 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 first few weeks of Term 4.

### ACADEMIC NEWS

#### MATHS COMPETITION

Congratulations to **James Sutton** (Year 10) on his third place in the Otago Maths Competition.



Congratulations also to **Jacob Timmins** for his Merit award in the same competition.

#### SCIENCE FAIR

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

- **Jack Moore** (Year 9) who won the NZ Institute of Chemistry award for his project titled 'Orange Drinks and Vitamin C'

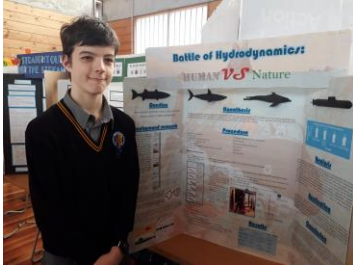


- **Reuben Campbell** (Year 11) who was awarded the Engineering NZ award and the Royal Aeronautical Society award for his project entitled 'Drones in Motion: Increased Efficiency'.

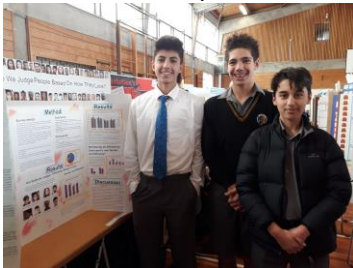
### 2019 TERM DATES

- Term 1** Monday 28 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 6 December

- **Oscar Watson** (Year 9) who won the Measurement Standards Laboratory, Callaghan Innovation award for his project titled 'Battle of Hydrodynamics: Human v Nature'. This project was also placed second in Class 3.



- **Jamal Howell, Milan Cussins & Epeli Kiloni** (Y9) who were Highly Commended for their project 'Do We Judge People Based on How They Look?'



## GREAT KIWI ENGLISH COMPETITION

A number of Year 9 students participated in the University of Canterbury Great Kiwi English Competition. Congratulations to **Luke Gibbs** (9GM) who gained not only a Distinction grade, but also the top mark in the whole of New Zealand. Luke competed against students from 400 other schools nationwide, making this a truly outstanding achievement.

**James Sutton** (10BK), **Reuben Ballara**, **Miha Mitcalfe Matthews**, **Armin Ruckstuhl**, **Daniel Turner** and **Oscar Watson** (9GM) were awarded Excellence grades. **Jagan Buckman**, **Oscar Cole** and **Angus Doddridge** (9GM) gained Merit grades.



Left to right Luke Gibbs, Reuben Ballara, Oscar Cole, Angus Doddridge, Jagan Buckman, Oscar Watson, Daniel Turner and Miha Mitcalfe Matthews.

Congratulations to all participants in the competition for their fantastic achievements.

## JUNIOR SPEECH COMPETITION

The Junior Prepared Speech competition was held late this term. **Grainger Scott** (10BK) won the Most Entertaining Speech for his speech on 'How to Get a First Date'. **Dev Patel** (10JG) won the Best Overall Speech for his speech on 'Lying Comes Naturally to All of Us'.

**Jude Sneddon** (9GM) won the Most Entertaining Speech for his speech on 'The Best Sport You've Never Heard Of'. **Jaidan Kesry** (9GM) won the Best Overall Speech for his speech entitled 'Being a Twin'.



Left to Right: Grainger Scott, Jude Sneddon, Dev Patel and Jaidan Kesry.

Congratulations to all speakers who participated with special congratulations to the winners.

## LEAVERS' BALL

The highlight of the college social calendar, the annual Leavers' Ball, was held on Friday 21 September at The Pines. The theme this year was 'Casino'.

It was an excellent event, attended by 180 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.



# SPORTS NEWS

## Badminton

Congratulations to our Senior A side (**Jordan Chan, Bevan Cox Henry Hollis** and **Sean McGregor**) who won the Premier Regional competition beating HIBS to be crowned Wellington Regional Champions.



## Basketball

Basketball had a fantastic season across the grades. Congratulations to our Senior A side who won the College Sport Wellington Premiership for the first time since 1998, beating St Pat's (Town) in the final 84-69.



The Senior B side also won Division 2 on the same night beating Paraparaumu College 85-82. Congratulations boys!



Congratulations also to the Junior local team who won the regional final of Division 6.

The Senior A side then went on to their regional qualifying tournament during tournament week, narrowly losing to Napier Boys' High School 77-72 in the final. This qualifies them for nationals, to be held

during the first week of the holidays.

### Hockey

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI made the final of the College Sport Wellington Premier grade for the first time in recent memory but unfortunately lost to Parapaumu College in 'golden goal' extra time. Well done boys. You have had an awesome season.



### Swimming / Water Polo

Five boys qualified for the Wellington Short Course Swimming Championships earlier this month. Well done to **Kit Jones, Myles Owens, Sam Brown, Che Pulepule and Jacob Timmins**.

Congratulations to **Sam Brown** who won 7 gold, 3 silver and a bronze in the 14 Years age grade, and set two Wellington age group records in the process.

Congratulations also to **Che Pulepule** who won 4 silver and 4 bronze in the 16 Years category and **Jacob Timmins** won 4 gold and 4 silver in the 13 Years grade.

Sam Brown, Che Pulepule and Jacob Timmins then went on to compete in the NZ Secondary Schools' Swimming Championships and, despite having one of the smallest swimming contingents, Rongotai finished 6<sup>th</sup> in NZ out of 64 schools thanks to **Sam Brown** (8 gold, 1 silver + 2 top 10 finishes), **Jacob Timmins** (1 gold + 1 bronze) and **Che Pulepule** (5 top 10 finishes)



Sam Brown Che Pulepule Jacob Timmins

**Sam Brown** has been selected for the NZ Swimming High Performance Youth training squad (and the NZ U15 Water Polo squad). Being selected in two national squads is a

fantastic achievement. Well done Sam!

Congratulations also to **Lachie Reddish** who has been selected in the NZ U14 Water Polo squad.



### Winter Tournament Week

Six Rongotai teams attended National and Regional tournaments as part of a very successful Winter Tournament Week, with a number of our teams achieving great results:

- Junior A Basketball - 9<sup>th</sup> place Zone 3 Junior Regional Premiership, Napier.
- Senior A Basketball – 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Zone 3 Regional Premiership, Palmerston North.
- 1st XI Football - 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Rex Dawkins Tournament, Napier.
- 1st XI Hockey - 21<sup>st</sup> place, Rankin Cup, Tauranga, guaranteeing a position next year too.
- 15 Rugby - 11<sup>th</sup> place, Hurricanes Regional Tournament, Silverstream.
- U14 Rugby - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Hurricanes Regional Tournament, Wellington.

Thanks to all the coaches and managers who went away with the teams and helped make it possible – it was a fantastic display of sports around the North Island!

### Winter Sports

Thank you to all the volunteers who supported Rongotai College sport during Terms 2 and 3. We still see a small number of parents doing the bulk of the work, so please take some time to volunteer in Term 4 or next year.

A reminder that all winter sports uniforms should have been returned directly to the coach / 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 fees outstanding. Failure to settle these will mean your son will 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.

### Summer Sports

Summer sports are just around the corner. If your son played volleyball, cricket, futsal, floorball, bowls or tennis in Term 1, their registration will have rolled over to Term 4. More information will be released in the coming weeks via morning notices, assembly and directly to coaches / managers or parents if applicable. If you haven't heard anything by the second week of the holidays, please contact the teacher in charge of the sport or the Sports Director.

If your son no longer wants to play, please inform the Sports Director, Mr Nigel Dixon ([sport@rongotai.school.nz](mailto:sport@rongotai.school.nz)) or the teacher in charge of that sport. Similarly if your son did not play in Term 1 but wants to play in Term 4, please contact Mr Dixon.

### TESTIMONIALS

If your son is leaving Rongotai College at the end of this year and wants a testimonial, he should have already picked up the appropriate form from the College Shop; these are due in on Friday 26 October. We process a large number of testimonials each year and time is needed to do this. If your son has yet to return his form, I can give no guarantees that he will receive his testimonial at Prizegiving.

Finally, can I wish you all a great vacation break and I hope our boys return for the start of Term 4 rested and ready for the vital last months of the school year.

Kind regards,

Kevin Carter  
**PRINCIPAL**



Rongotai College

# QUIZ NIGHT

The Pines  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
Tickets \$25 each  
*includes supper, cash bar*

**Be sure to book your table for eight**

by emailing: [rongotaiquiz@gmail.com](mailto:rongotaiquiz@gmail.com)

*bring cash for raffles  
& heads and tails*

Doors open at 6.45pm,  
quiz starts at 7.30pm

## RONGOTAI COLLEGE

170 Coutts St, Kilbirnie, Wellington  
PO Box 14-063, Kilbirnie, Wellington, 6022  
PHONE: +64 4 939 3050 FAX:: +64 4 939 3060  
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)