



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 10, Term 3 (September) 2020

COMING EVENTS

Friday 25 September
Last day Term 3

Monday 12 October
First day Term 4

Thursday 14 October
Rongotai College Poly Variety Evening,
6.30pm in the Renner Hall

Monday 19 October
Pasifika Parents' Asosi meeting, 6.30pm
in the staffroom

Wednesday 21 October
Parents' Association meeting, 7.30pm in the
staffroom

Friday 23 October
Arts & Cultural Assembly 11.30am in the
Renner Hall
Sports team photos taken

Monday 26 October
Labour Day Holiday

Friday 30 October
Sports Assembly, 11.30am in the Renner
Hall
Leavers' Ball
Last day for Testimonial applications

Thursday 29 October
Board of Trustees' meeting 6pm in the
Mackay Library

Friday 1 November
Last day for selected seniors who qualify for
study leave

Friday 6 November
Food Fair 6pm in the Renner Hall

Wednesday 11 November
Last day for selected senior students
before external exams

Friday 13 November
Testing day for Year 9 students for 2021

Monday 16 November
NCEA External exams begin

Tuesday 9 December
Prize Giving

TERM FOUR DATES

Monday 12 October to
Wednesday 10 December

Last Friday brought us to the end of Term 3 and a well-deserved holiday 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. End-of-year reports will be emailed to parents and visible on the parent portal for senior students from Thursday 1 October; paper copies will be posted in the first week of Term 4.



Our senior boys need to be mindful that NCEA externals begin on **Monday 16 November** and of the need to maximise the time available to ensure they are thoroughly prepared to achieve their academic goals in 2020. Education and academic qualifications are growing increasingly more important as we face very challenging economic times in the years ahead.

These holidays are an ideal time to rest for a week and then begin preparation for externals. A copy of the NCEA Exam timetable is attached to this newsletter.

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.

I would also like to point out that **Junior Examinations** (Years 9 and 10) are scheduled to start on

2021 TERM DATES

- Term 1** Monday 1 February to Friday 16 April
- Term 2** Monday 2 May to Friday 9 July
- Term 3** Monday 26 July to Friday 1 October
- Term 4** Monday 18 October to Friday 10 December

Monday 16 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

SCIENCE FAIR

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

In Year 10, **Flynn Gowans** & **Cameron Grice** (with their joint project titled 'Virtual Education') and **Mikey Lemon** (with his project titled 'Masking the Truth') were first equal and won the Victoria University of Wellington Faculty of Education prize, while **Elliot Brown** was placed third;

Mikey Lemon also won the Massey University / GNS Science Joint Centre for Disaster Research prize; **Elliot Mance** was placed third in the Year 9 section.

ART PORTFOLIOS

Staff in the Art Department will be available for students who are yet to complete their portfolios for NCEA assessment. The Art Department will be open from

10am to 3pm during the school holidays on the following days:

Wednesday 30 September

Thursday 1 October

Monday 5 October

Tuesday 6 October.

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

If your son is still considering attending University the following website may be of some help.

<https://www.universitiesnz.ac.nz/>

The 'No Major Drama' website is also a great way for students to identify subjects to major in at university that match their interests and strengths. This site gives them the ability to research these majors and find out what is involved in each programme and compare programmes between universities.

<https://www.nomajordrama.co.nz>

Halls of Residence Applications

Students need to understand the halls of residence process www.ccrf.dotnous.com/students

Scholarship Applications

Visit the Money Hub website www.moneyhub.co.nz/scholarships-nz

Applications must be completed on line. If assistance is needed, this is available from the Careers Office.

APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships are where your son can "earn while he learns" a trade. The majority of the training is on-the-job. On completion, apprentices gain one or more national certificates and become qualified in the associated trade. In New Zealand currently there is a high demand for apprentices in a range of different industries.

For Industry Training Organisations who offer apprenticeships in New Zealand please see our website www.rongotai.school.nz/academic/careers-and-vocational-studies/vocational-studies-and-gateway/ for further information and links to their websites.

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 30 October.

We process a large number of testimonials each year and time is needed to do this. If your son does not return his form by the due date, I can give no guarantees that he will receive his testimonial at the end of the school year.



CULTURAL NEWS

MUSIC

The Wellington Jazz Club recently ran their inaugural Jazz Workshops in our Renner Hall, with high level tutors Dr Rodger Fox and Head of Jazz at NZ School of Music, Dr Dave Wilson providing advice to our students.



Student Darcy Boardman taking advice from Dr Rodger Fox.

LEAVERS' BALL

Due to COVID restrictions we postponed the Leavers' Ball and have rescheduled it to Friday 30 October at The Pines.

Year 13 students can continue to purchase tickets. They will go on sale to Year 12 students at the start of Term 4.



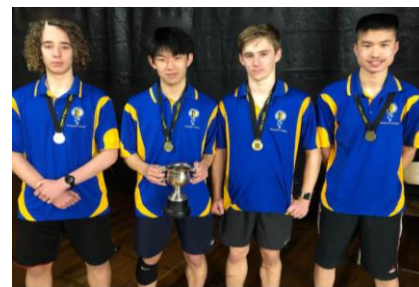
SPORTS NEWS

With the winter season finished we now switch our focus to the summer codes. It's a good time to reflect on what we have achieved in sport over the past term. Many of our teams achieved well in local College Sport Wellington competitions.

BADMINTON

Senior A Badminton finished second in the round-robin, and played the Wellington Premier final on Friday 18

September at Badminton Hall, coming out champions beating Tawa College 4-2 in the final. The Junior A team also made their final.



Anaiwan Ojala, Jordan Chan, Bevan Cox and Jordan Tham – Senior A Champions!

FLOORBALL

Over the weekend both our Senior and Junior teams competed in the Floorball Nationals held at ASB. Unfortunately the seniors went down 0-1 in the last 40 seconds of the final. The juniors went back to back winning the final and after reversing their pool play result – congratulations!



Champion Junior Floorball Team

FOOTBALL

Four of our eight Football teams played the finals in their grade on Saturday 19 September – the 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI and Junior Black. Congratulations to the 2nd XI and 3rd XI for winning their respective competitions.



2nd XI Champions



4th XI Champions

RUGBY

Congratulations to the Under 65kg rugby team for winning their grade in the College Sport Wellington

competition. This team was a combined team with Scots College, and was coached by our Deputy Principal, Geoff Hall.



Well done also to the 1stXV, who finished the season in 4th place for the second year running.

SWIMMING

Huge congratulations to **Sam Brown** who swam the 400 Individual Medley at the recent Wellington Short Course Championships (the only event he competed in that weekend) and came away with a new National Age Group record (and a gold medal). The record had stood since 2013.



Also performing well at that swim meet was **Elliot Brown** who won a gold and two silver medals.



A team of five boys competed in the Huia Relay Secondary Schools' event this week, winning the 4x50m Breaststroke (Sam Brown, Elliot Brown, Miles Owen & Jacob Timmins), placing second in the 4x50m Medley and the 4x50m Fly (Sam Brown, Ethan Buchanan, Miles Owen & Elliot Brown), and third in the 4x50m Freestyle (Sam Brown, Miles Owen, Ethan Buchanan & Elliot Brown). Well done boys!

SURFING

Congratulations to **Charlie Rapson** (Under 14) and **Lachie Reddish** (Under 16) who won their respective age divisions at the Wellington Regional Secondary Schools Surfing competition.



Charlie Rapson Lachie Reddish

BASKETBALL

Junior A Basketball played their final on 15 September against St Patrick's College Silverstream, unfortunately losing by a slim margin (after having been beaten by Stream earlier in the season by 40 odd). Well done to our boys of the future!

In the Senior division, both our A and B teams were losing semi-finalists, so finished in the top four.

THANKS!

Thank you to all the volunteers who supported Rongotai College sport during Terms 2 and 3. In particular, thanks to all the coaches and managers who helped make the season possible.

A reminder that all winter sports uniforms should by now have been returned directly 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 have sports 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 fees, please contact the school office.

SUMMER SPORTS

Summer sports are just around the corner. By now your son should have confirmed his availability for Term 4 Summer sport with the Sports Department. Team lists have been posted on the sports noticeboard. 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 Office, (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 Lala.

It would be great to see even more parents involved in sport, so please think about taking the time to volunteer to coach or manage a team in Term 4 or next year.

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

October sees the changeover of Student Representatives on the Board of Trustees. **Jamal Fiso** has represented students on the Board for the past two years. 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 2020-2021 Student Representative on the Board of Trustees has been held and **Jack Pulford** of Year 12 was elected as Student Representative.

Jack will attend his first Board of Trustees meeting on 29 October. We are looking forward to his perspective and input in the coming year.

NOTICEBOARD

BREAKFAST

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

We understand that for a range of reasons, boys may not come to school having had an appropriate breakfast. Consequently, we have partnered with Fonterra and Sanitarium (as part of their 'Kick Start Breakfast' programme) to provide breakfast for boys who require it in the Hospitality Room each morning. Boys are able to have breakfast from 7.45 each morning. Weet-Bix and milk are free, and boys can purchase toast if they choose to.



We hope this allows all our students to have a 'Kick Start Breakfast' each day.

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR SCHOOL APP YET?
NEVER MISS IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION AGAIN!



- *Events
- *Notices
- *Instant school messages
- *Absentee
- *Newsletters
- *Permission Slips

Available on the App Store | GET IT ON Google play

Simple free download: In the Play Store and App Store search 'Skool Loop NZ' & choose our school once installed.



SKOOL LOOP APP

Parents are reminded to download this free app from the appropriate app store. When downloaded, select 'Rongotai College'.

From here you are able to easily send attendance emails, view newsletters, access the daily notices (linked through the Parent Portal) and in the event of an emergency, we are able to send a notification directly to your phone.

RONGOTAI FOOD FAIR – Friday 6 November 5.30pm until 8pm

After the success of the 2019 Rongotai Food Fair, the Parents' Association will once again hold their food fair, later this year due to COVID-19 challenges.

While the Parents' Association has the capacity to organise and run the event they rely on the school community to make it a success. These are some of the ways you can help:

- Run a food stall – assist by covering food cost and help on the night with staff, signage etc. The various ethnicities represented at Rongotai College are encouraged to come forward and serve their local dishes.
- Donate to the fair – Year 9 and 10 parents, cakes and baking, parents of senior students are asked to donate food related tombola items – more on this closer to the time.
- Assist in the preparation of the food fair – send us an email and we will assign you a task!

The Parents' Association can be contacted by email: parents.association@rongotai.school.nz

RONGOTAI COLLEGE

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www.rongotai.school.nz
www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege
www.youtube.com/RongotaiCollegeNZ

2020 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Exams available digitally shown in blue

Date	Time	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Scholarship
Mon 16 Nov	9.30 am	Te Reo Rangatira	Physics	Business Studies	Calculus
	2.00 pm	Chinese	German	Dance	Agricultural & Horticultural Science
Tue 17 Nov	9.30 am	Media Studies	Earth & Space Science	Drama	Chemistry
	2.00 pm		Classical Studies		German
Wed 18 Nov	9.30 am	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Art History	Statistics	
	2.00 pm	Geography	Spanish	Earth & Space Science	Drama
Thu 19 Nov	9.30 am		Mathematics & Statistics		Biology
	2.00 pm	Music	Accounting	History	French
Fri 20 Nov	9.30 am	Mathematics & Statistics			Classical Studies
	2.00 pm		Drama	Samoan	Statistics
WEEKEND					
Mon 23 Nov	9.30 am	French	Te Reo Māori	Calculus	
	2.00 pm	Economics		Accounting	
Tue 24 Nov	9.30 am		English		Religious Studies
	2.00 pm	History	Chinese	Biology	Economics
Wed 25 Nov	9.30 am	English			Te Reo Rangatira
	2.00 pm	Drama	History	Health	Physics
Thu 26 Nov	9.30 am	Business Studies	Chemistry	Agricultural & Horticultural Science German Chinese	English
	2.00 pm	Biology	Music	Media Studies	Accounting
Fri 27 Nov	9.30 am	Science		Making Music	History
	2.00 pm	Samoan Spanish	Geography	Chemistry	
WEEKEND					
Mon 30 Nov	9.30 am	Te Reo Māori Art History	Japanese	Te Reo Rangatira Social Studies Psychology	Samoan
	2.00 pm	Latin	Agricultural & Horticultural Science		Geography
Tue 1 Dec	9.30 am	Accounting		English	
	2.00 pm	Home Economics	Economics		Media Studies
Wed 2 Dec	9.30 am	German	Biology	Geography	
	2.00 pm	Dance		Physics	
Thu 3 Dec	9.30 am	Physics	Home Economics	Classical Studies	Japanese
	2.00 pm		Media Studies	Home Economics	Art History
Fri 4 Dec	9.30 am	Chemistry	Business Studies	French	Te Reo Māori
	2.00 pm	Classical Studies	Health	Economics	
WEEKEND					
Mon 7 Dec	9.30 am	Japanese	Te Reo Rangatira Latin	Japanese	
	2.00 pm		French	Spanish	Latin
Tue 8 Dec	9.30 am	Health	Samoan Education for Sustainability	Te Reo Māori Latin	Chinese
	2.00 pm		Social Studies	Music Studies	Spanish
Wed 9 Dec	9.30 am	Social Studies	Dance	Art History	Earth & Space Science

EXAMS END (Term 4 ends 16 Dec)