



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 5 Term 2 (June), 2021

COMING EVENTS

Friday 4 June

Mid-term break

Monday 7 June

Queen's Birthday holiday

Friday 11 June

Rongotai Experience
– no school for most students

Monday 14 June

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

Tuesday 15 June

Open Evening

Thursday 24 June

Board of Trustees' meeting at 6pm in the staffroom
Parents' Association Quiz Evening

Friday 9 July

Last day Term 2

Monday 26 July

First day Term 3

2021 TERM DATES

Term 2 Monday 3 May to Friday 9 July

Term 3 Monday 26 July to Friday 1 October

Term 4 Monday 18 October to Friday 10 December

The start of Term 2 is always an extremely busy time, and it seems amazing that we are now at the end of Week 5. It has been a busy term!

Included with this newsletter is your son's Mid-Year Report, together with an invoice for fees and donations.

Reports, fees and contributions owing can also be viewed on the parent portal.

ENROLMENT 2022

The first 2022 enrolment event is **RONGOTAI EXPERIENCE**, when Year 8 boys from our contributing schools come to Rongotai College to experience our school on **Friday 11 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 before the day if this is the case and please tell him to report to the office at 8.55am.

The second important event is our **OPEN EVENING** which will be held on **Tuesday 15 June**. The evening begins at 7pm and concludes around 8.30pm.

Departments will be setting up displays for the Open Evening from 12.30pm onwards. Some students will be required to help with this, but if your son is not required **he will be released from school at 12.30pm**.

FAREWELL TO MR EAGLE



At the end of Term 1 we farewelled Mr Matt Eagle who left to take up a position as a Learning Support Co-ordinator for the Taita-Stokes Valley Kāhui Ako.

Mr Eagle is a Rongotai College Old Boy (1976-80) and has taught here since 1988. He has been involved in many aspects of college life from basketball to Stage Challenge, as well as teaching and leadership roles. We wish him well in his new position.

WELCOME TO MS RAWLINGS

At the start of Term 2 we welcomed Ms Ainsley Rawlings to the position of Teacher in Charge of Geography.

Although a New Zealander, Ms



Rawlings has come from England where she has been living and teaching for several years.



CULTURAL NEWS

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

A highlight of the year to date has been the very successful season of "Jesus Christ Superstar" in mid-May. There has been considerable positive feedback from staff, parents and the wider community. All were very impressed by the quality of performances and the wonderful way the 80 or so students in the cast, orchestra, back-stage crew, sound and lighting crew worked together.



I extend my congratulations to all the students who participated – their talent and their enjoyment were evident for all to see! There were some outstanding performances by principals Jesus, Judas and Mary, 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 Ami Tasker (Director/Producer), Mr Greg Crayford (Musical Director), Ms Esmee McAuley (Artistic Director), and Mr Kit Norman (Stage Manager).



Members of our Rongotai community also made significant contributions to the production. In particular, our gratitude is extended to Jeff Hewitt of Metro Productions Limited (lighting and staging), and parent Grant Sullivan (sound). Mr Mark Cubey must also be thanked for his assistance with direction of the show.

Well done to all!



MUSIC

Best wishes to the Big Band and the two Jazz Combos who will be competing in the Youth Jazz competitions at the Manawatu and Wellington Jazz Festivals over the next month.



SPORTS NEWS

Term 2 sees the start of the winter codes. Teams are currently completing grading rounds or have started their CSW competitions. 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 always BE RESPECTFUL to your teammates and coaches and the opposition, their coaches, managers, spectators and their facilities when playing away from home.

ENCOURAGE BROTHERHOOD - nobody needs to be pulled down in order to get above them, prop them up and we can all achieve - look out for your brothers!

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE - the Championship is not won in June. Look for the incremental improvement in your team as a collective, work together to achieve goals.

TAKING PRIDE - wear the correct Rongotai College team uniform and remember the badge on the front is who you play for.

SWIMMING

Congratulations to **ETHAN BUCHANAN** who swam in the Division 2 National Age Group Championships in Dunedin recently. Ethan won 7 races including the 400 & 200 freestyle, 200 IM, 100 & 50 butterfly, 200 & 100 backstroke.



TRAMPOLINING

Congratulations to **THEO BRAY** who won a bronze medal in both the Individual and Double Mini Trampolining events at the NZ Secondary Schools Nationals – awesome work Theo!



OLYMPIC SELECTION

Congratulations to Rongotai College Old Boy **ANTON DOWN-JENKINS** (2013-15) on his selection in the NZ Diving Team to compete at the Tokyo Olympic Games in July.



Thank you to the parents and community volunteers who work tirelessly to provide opportunities for all boys at Rongotai to enjoy and experience sport. 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.

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.

Kind regards,

Kevin Carter
PRINCIPAL