



# RONGOTAI COLLEGE

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 6, Term 4 (November), 2021

### COMING EVENTS

**Monday 22 November to Tuesday 14 December**

NCEA external exams

**Wednesday 1 to Friday 3 December**

Year 10 Camp

**Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 December**

Year 9 Survivor Rongotai

**Friday 3 December**

Year 9 Social Action Day

**Monday 6 December**

Teacher only day – NCEA day

**Thursday 9 December**

Junior reports distributed and final day of school for students  
Junior Prizegiving.

**Friday 10 December**

Teacher Only Day

**Tuesday 14 December**

He Pō Whakanui evening

**Wednesday 15 December**

Fiafia Night

**Friday 17 December**

School office closes

**MONDAY 6 DECEMBER** is a teacher only day, as teachers get up-dated on future changes to NCEA.

As a consequence, there is no school for any of our students, except for those with an NCEA exam timetabled for that day.

The last few weeks have been a very positive and productive time at the college, highlighted by Senior Prizegiving which this year was live-streamed via Facebook, due to COVID restrictions. Senior students were then released for study leave for their external

examinations, which started on Monday 22 November while junior exams started on Thursday 18 November. The NCEA exams continue through until Tuesday 14 December.



While study leave has been in progress, some senior students remained at school working to add to their credit totals as part of our Qualifications Attainment Programme. It has been extremely pleasing to see a number of these boys achieving their NCEA qualifications, and by doing so, being granted study leave.

### END-OF-YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

The last official day for all students is **Thursday 9 December** when junior reports will be distributed.

A Junior Awards Assembly will also be held at 12.15pm on **Thursday 9 December**. This will be live-streamed via the Rongotai College Facebook page for parents and families to watch.

The Awards Assembly is the last official school event for all students, who are then free to go on holiday at its conclusion.

### LEAVERS' DINNER

The Leaver's Ball was another event to be cancelled due to COVID restrictions. We decided to hold a Leavers' Dinner for Year 13 students in its place. As a dinner it

### 2022 TERM DATES

**Term 1** Monday 31 January to Thursday 14 April

**Term 2** Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July

**Term 3** Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September

**Term 4** Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December

meant we could keep within our COVID bubble.

A very successful, relaxed evening was held at The Pines on Monday 15 November for those Year 13s who wished to attend.



### PREFECTS FOR 2022

Congratulations to the following students who were named at Senior Prizegiving as Prefects for the 2022 school year. From this group the Head Prefect and other student executive positions will be named in the new year.

Prefects for 2022 are:

Reuben Ballara  
Cooper Bell  
Oscar Cole  
Flynn Crocker  
Afaese Fa'avae  
Kianu Fiamatai  
Liam George  
Jamal Howell  
Eveli Kilioni  
Desmond Matele  
Iose McCarthy  
Miha Mitcalfe Matthews  
Suneel Patel

Jude Sneddon  
Jacob Timmins  
Daniel Turner  
George Wells

#### LEAVING STAFF

At the end of this year, several staff members will be leaving Rongotai College.

**Ash Collier** (HOD Social Sciences) leaves us after five years as a teacher, Head of Department and Dean, to move to Christchurch with his family. Ash was also the Teacher in Charge of Football and Futsal within the school and we thank him for the work he has done in this area. He has a position as Head of Faculty at Kaiapoi High School.

**Govinda Lascelles** leaves after four years as Head of Digital Technologies to take up position at Wellington College.

**Elizabeth Riddle** is retiring and moving to Christchurch after 14 years in our Tamatoa Special Needs Unit. The boys will miss Ms Riddle greatly.

**Nick Tully**, teacher of Accounting and Business Studies, is retiring. Nick has been at Rongotai College since 2012 and we wish him all the very best in his well-deserved retirement. Mr Tully was the Teacher in Charge of Tennis and we thank him for the time he put into this.

**Anne Dukes** (Science) and **Nicole Vaughan** (Science) have ended their fixed-term contracts and we wish them well for the future.

#### LIBRARY & TEXT BOOK RETURN

Senior students should have already returned library books and textbooks, but those who have retained them for exam study should bring them in on the day of that subject's examination and give them to their teacher. Junior students should begin returning any textbooks to their subject teachers after the junior examinations.

#### SUMMER READING

To assist students to get over a reading slump during the summer break, the library will be running a Summer Reading Programme. Year 9 and 10 students can borrow up to six books for summer reading provided they will be returning to school and have no outstanding loans.

#### UNIFORMS

You may like to consider donating uniform items which your son no longer needs. If your son is leaving college, or has grown out of part of his uniform, please consider bringing it to the College Shop. The money raised from your donation of uniform is spent in the interests of the students through our Student Welfare

Fund. Unfortunately, we no longer sell clothing on the owner's behalf.

#### 2022 ENROLMENTS

Enrolments for 2022 are ongoing, and we will have a Year 9 cohort next year of approximately 160 students. A number of students in other year groups have also enrolled.

It is not too late to enrol students for Year 9 or other years for 2022. If you have friends who intend to enrol their son at Rongotai College for next year, please urge them to send the "Application for Enrolment" form to us as soon as possible.



#### DUX

The Dux is our top academic award for the outstanding Level 3 student. At the recent Senior Prizegiving **James Sutton** was named the Dux for Rongotai College for 2021. Congratulations James!



# RONGOTAI COLLEGE

## Junior Awards

Thursday 9 December

starting at 12.15pm

Our Junior Awards Assembly will be students only,  
broadcast live on [www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege](https://www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege)

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W: [www.rongotai.school.nz](http://www.rongotai.school.nz)  [www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege](https://www.facebook.com/RongotaiCollege)

Also congratulations to **Christian Koeck** who was named *Proxime Accessit*, while Sol Barris was awarded the prestigious Ballinger Scholarship.

### EOTC

Education Outside of the Classroom plays an important part in the learning of boys.

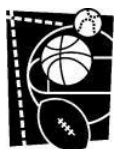
Over the last week or so of the school year, a number of activities have been organised for our Year 9 and 10 students, including Year 10 camp, Year 9 Survivor Rongotai (which is related to earthquake preparedness), a Social Action Day (a community service day for Year 9s), and contextualised curriculum days for Year 9 and 10 students. These will involve boys taking part in a range of in-school and out-of-school activities that will be enjoyable, positive learning experiences. More details will be sent home regarding these activities.



## CULTURAL NEWS

### MUSIC

Congratulations to **Timothy Honiss** and **Rex More** who both won scholarships to attend the NZ Jazz Foundation Summer Workshop.



## SPORTS NEWS

### COLLEGE SPORT WELLINGTON AWARDS

A great year of sport was celebrated at the College Sport Wellington Sports Person of the Year (SPOTY) awards ceremony on 10 November. Unfortunately, this was yet another event that could only be held by live-stream.

Congratulations to **Sam Brown** (Swimming), **Afaese Fa'avae**

(Rugby League) and **Alec Stewart** (Floorball) for being named as Athlete of the Year in their respective sports.

Congratulations are also due to **Ciaran Bolger** (Softball), **Jack Cobden-Cox** (Floorball) and **Angus Doddrige** (Tennis) and **Elliot Mance** (Ultimate) for being finalists in their sports.

### THANKS!

A number of businesses, organisations and individuals support Rongotai College Sport and sports teams in many ways, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support.

Without their support our sporting programmes would not be as successful or extensive as they currently are.

### IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Included in this newsletter is a list of our important dates and events for the end of this year and the beginning of the 2022 school year. ***Please keep this in a prominent place as it gives you a clear rundown of what is happening in our college as this year draws to a close and the new year begins.***

The *Important Dates and Events* notice also clearly explains when students are released for exams etc. and when they are required at school. Please go over this carefully with your son so that you can ensure his attendance when he is required.

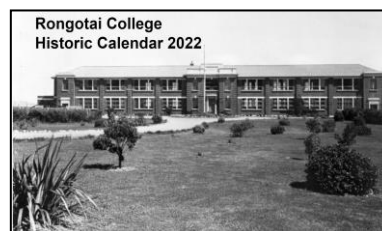
### 2022 SUBJECT CONFIRMATION

The 2022 academic year begins with Senior (Year 11-13) course confirmation interviews with Deans and Academic Mentors. These will be held on Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 January. Students can book these interviews on-line from now on. This can be done by going to the School Interviews website ([www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)) and entering the event code **ymeam** (for Rongotai College).

### 2022 RC CALENDAR

Rongotai College has been granted access to the National Library's collection of historical photos of Rongotai College and the surrounding area. They offer a fascinating, and sometimes quirky glimpse of Rongotai students over the years along with iconic pictures of Kilbirnie Speedway Racing, the original Rongotai Aerodrome, and *that* boxing bout in 1930.

We have bound these together in a calendar that is a celebration of both the school and the history of the local area. Local printers Milne Print have done a superb job of reproducing the digital files with sepia tones onto medium-weight mid-sheen card. The calendar is available for purchase from the college shop for \$15.



### FIRST DAY 2022

All 2022 students at all levels must attend school on Monday 31 January starting with our first assembly at 8.55am in the Renner Hall. We will formally welcome our new students to Rongotai College.

All this talk of 2022, means that the 2021 school year is fast drawing to a close. Despite lockdown and cancelled or altered events, it has nonetheless been a successful year. Our boys have shown resilience and a desire to achieve, and NCEA achievement looks well on track. Thanks to all whānau and caregivers for your support during this challenging year.

Mā te wā

**Kevin Carter**  
PRINCIPAL

# RONGOTAI COLLEGE



## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

### 2021

**Monday 29 & Tuesday 30 November**

Year 9 and 10 Contextualised Learning Programme

**Wednesday 1, Thursday 2 & Friday 3 December**

Year 10 Camp

**Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 December**

Year 9 Survivor Rongotai

**Friday 3 December**

Year 9 Social Action Day

**Monday 6 December**

Teacher Only Day – NCEA

**Tuesday 7 December**

House activities – Year 9 and 10 students

**Thursday 9 December**

Junior prizegiving – 12.15pm

**Friday 10 December**

Teacher only day.

**Friday 17 December**

College office and shop close.

### 2022

**Monday 17 January**

College office opens.

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

**Monday 24 January**

Office closed – Wellington Anniversary

**Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 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 **ymeam**)

**Monday 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 2022 school year the opening hours will be 8.30am to 4.30pm from Tuesday 25 January.

Credit card and EFTPOS facilities are available.

## RONGOTAI COLLEGE

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