



RONGOTAI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Week 5 Term 2 (3 June), 2022

COMING EVENTS

Monday 6 June

Queen's Birthday Holiday

Friday 10 June

Rongotai Experience
– no school for most students

Tuesday 14 June

Open Evening

Wednesday 15 June

Parents' Association meeting, 7.20pm in the staffroom

Monday 20 June

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

Friday 24 June

Matariki Public Holiday

Thursday 30 June

Board of Trustees' meeting at 6pm in the staffroom

Friday 8 July

Last day Term 2

Monday 25 July

First day Term 3

Wednesday 27 July

TuTagata Festival – TSB Arena

2022 TERM DATES

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

2023 TERM DATES

Term 1 Monday 30 January to Thursday 6 April

Term 2 Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June

Term 3 Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

Term 4 Monday 9 October to Friday 8 December

has been great celebrating the sense of normality with full school assemblies in the Renner Hall, listening to some great performances by our music groups and kick-starting the busy winter sports season.

It has been reassuring to have higher attendance rates over the past four weeks, as we focus on a term that is critically important in the year's cycle of teaching and learning. While the impact of COVID has reduced this term, it is still evident in our school community. That, and the usual winter illnesses, means that we are still experiencing some pressure from staff and student absences. Thank you for remaining watchful of your son's health, and for communicating with us if he is absent. Of course, if he is absent, he can keep up-to-date with his schoolwork with work uploaded in GOOGLE Classroom.

PINK SHIRT DAY

We recently acknowledged Pink Shirt Day which highlights the anti-bullying message. The day has grown from highlighting anti-homophobic bullying to a much wider anti-bullying message. We encouraged staff and students to wear pink and held a non-uniform day, which raised funds for the Mental Health Foundation.



Staff dressed in PINK!

At assembly I spoke to the boys about bullying. While this generation of teenagers are more accepting of difference and less discriminatory than previous generations, they don't always get it right. It was

Friday 10 June is Rongotai Experience day so no school for Rongotai students.

School will finish at 12.30pm on **Tuesday 14 June** to allow staff to prepare for Open Evening.

therefore a good opportunity to reinforce that we expect our students to treat each other well and that we will not accept bullying in any form, including on social media. I also said that we expect them to speak out if they see or hear bullying.



Prefects supporting the day

ENROLMENT 2023

The first 2023 enrolment event is **RONGOTAI EXPERIENCE**, when Year 8 boys from our contributing schools come to Rongotai College to experience our school on **Friday 10 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 14 June**. The evening begins at 6.45pm and concludes around 8.30pm.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

I hope that the first five weeks of term have been positive for your son, as we settle in to a very busy and hopefully productive term. It

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.**



SPORTS NEWS

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.

HURRICANES VISIT

Three Hurricanes team members visited Rongotai College recently to promote Eat My Lunch, a company associated with the Hurricanes, whose aim is to ensure that no child at school goes hungry. Rongotai College regularly receives lunches from Eat My Lunch, but this day they were distributed by the Hurricanes members. The boys really enjoyed the visit.



The players also took the time to visit Tamatoa, our Special Needs Unit.



The winter sports season is well underway with grading now completed for most sports; some competitions have also begun. Can I remind you that students need to play in the correct shorts and socks, which can be purchased from the College Shop.

CROSS COUNTRY

Two teams participated in the CSW Cross Country Championships recently. The boys posted some outstanding results with the Year 9 team finishing second. Congratulations to **Desmond Reddy** who finished with the fastest time in the Year 9 race, to win his second CSW race of the season.

The U16 boys teams also did a great job finishing 4th overall - great work boys!



SCHOOL BOARD PARENT ELECTION 2022

Our school will be undertaking a parent election for 5 School Board vacancies. This process will start with the issuing of nomination papers to our caregiver community by Friday 15 July 2022.

We have employed CES (Canterbury Education Services) to undertake the election process on our behalf. This year with legislative change, our nomination form and full instruction on how to place your nomination into our own School's Election website will be emailed to you if we have your email address in our database or you will receive it by post if we don't have your email in our database.

Nomination papers will also be available at the college office. The school will send those on to CES for processing upon receipt from candidates.

Nominations close on Wednesday 3 August at 12 noon. Election day is Wednesday 7 September.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

Kevin Carter
PRINCIPAL



CULTURAL NEWS

MUSIC

Best wishes to the Big Band and the two Jazz Combos who will be competing in the Youth Jazz competitions at the Manawatu Jazz Festival over the weekend. They have been performing at assembly over the last few weeks and are sounding great!

SWIMMING

A nine strong team represented Rongotai at the CSW Individual Swim Championships at Huia Pools recently. The boys competed well and it was a great day out for the team. Congratulations to **Elliot Brown** (1st in the 100m Freestyle), **Ethan Buchanan** (3rd in the 200m Freestyle) and **Thomas Waddington** (3rd in the 50m Breaststroke).

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