



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It gives me great pleasure to be able to begin the first newsletter of 2011 by publishing our NCEA results. Not only do we punch well above our weight for a decile 6 school, but our results actually rank us among the top schools in the country. It is a credit to our staff, students and community that a small Catholic school of modest means from Timaru can compete with our nation's best and brightest and I congratulate you all for your efforts. I must add, however, that we cannot be complacent; we need to continually find ways to 'sharpen the saw'.

Level 1

100% passed Level 1
26% gained an endorsement with either Merit or Excellence

Level 2

99% passed Level 2
20% gained an endorsement with either Merit or Excellence

Level 3

91% passed Level 3
80% gained University Entrance
26% gained an endorsement with either Merit or Excellence

A special acknowledgment goes to the following students who gained an endorsement with excellence:

Level 1: Genevieve Cockburn, Louise Cody and Hyejun Choi

Level 2: William Crawford, Kelly Finn, Courtenay Hamel, Claire Johnson, Marie-Christin Kuepper, Nadia Ricciotti, Yolanda Smith, Jasmine Waite and Genevieve Woodall

Level 3: James Durcan and Bridget Watson

I would also like to comment on how pleased I have been with the new Yr 9 students and the way they have settled into Roncalli. They are quite a pleasant, well mannered group with some incredible talent. I remind parents of new students that the first point of contact should be your child's House Group Teacher or their House Dean. We encourage you to contact the school if you have any concerns. I would also like to

remind Yr 9 parents that we are hosting a **Yr 9 BBQ** for all yr 9 students and their families on Thursday 17 Feb. from 5-7pm. I urge you to come because it is a great chance to meet the other families who your child will be associated with for the next 5 years. Community is really at the heart of the college and is what makes it special.

During the holiday, Roncalli College signed an agreement with Sacred Heart Parish to lease the Presbytery **Annex**. This will be used as a 'cultural centre' where some of our itinerant music teachers will be based and practice rooms will be available to performance music students. I believe this will be a huge asset to the college and help to promote and strengthen our very successful music programme. A huge thanks goes to Mrs Brien, our property staff and the PTA who have been feverishly scrubbing and painting the Annex to get it ready for the school year. I would also like to thank the various tradesmen and anonymous donors who have been so generous to the college during this renovation. Without your generosity this would not have been possible.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the following:

- The term 1 **School Mass** will take place on Thursday February 10 at 10:15am. Members of the community are most welcome to join us.
- **Swimming sports** will be held Friday 11 February at Maori Park Pool. Students will be given detailed instructions to take home. Again, please feel free to come down and cheer the students on. It will be a bit 'cosy' due to the renovations.
- The PPTA is holding a **Paid Union Meeting (PUM)** on Tuesday February 22 at 1:30. Students will be released from school at the end of period 4 (1:20 pm). Busses will run on normal timetable ie 3.20pm.
- We will hold an **Academic Assembly** on 24 February at 2pm in the school hall. Guests are most welcome to attend.
- **Athletic Sports** will be held on Friday 25 February at Aorangi Stadium. The students will be given detailed information to take home. Feel free to come and watch and if you're keen, we are always looking for a few extra hands.

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

- Thanks to all of you who support the school by monitoring your child's uniform. I believe we have an attractive uniform and a high standard of dress that present our students in a very positive light. As I frequently tell them, they are the shop window for Roncalli. For those who need a reminder about hair, just remember the 4 C's **Clean, Combable, one natural Colour** and off the **Collar** (boys) or tied back for girls. **Rat's tails** are NOT part of our school uniform.

I look forward to meeting the families new to Roncalli and to the exciting year ahead.

Until Next Time,

Chris Comeau

REMINDER

Year 9 BBQ
Thursday 17
February, 5-7pm at
the school. All
Yr 9 students and
their families
welcome.

Inside this issue

Reflection

Calendar

Student Achievement

Sports News

Notices

Calendar

February 2011

8-9	Yr 13 Retreat
9	Yr 12 OED Sea Kayaking Day Uniform shop open 3.30-4.30pm
10	College Mass in Basilica
11	Roncalli Swimming Sports
15	Yr 11/12 Presentation Brendan Malone from Youth Diocesan Aoraki B Grade Tennis Starts
16	St Kevin's Cricket Exchange Oamaru
17	Year 9 BBQ 5-7pm
18	Aoraki A Grade Tennis Starts
18-23	Yr 12 OED Sea Kayaking Trip
20	Aoraki Touch Champs
23	Uniform shop open 3.30-4.00pm
24	Commissioning Mass 4.30pm Sacred Heart
25 Feb	Roncalli Athletic Sports

March 2011

1	St Thomas' Cricket Exchange - Timaru
2	Mayoral welcome – International students
3	Postponement Athletics
8	AGM Netball Mtg 7pm
9	Uniform shop open 3.30-4.30pm
14-18	Yr 10 Camp 1
15-16	St Bede's Cricket - Timaru
16	Aoraki Schools Volleyball Champs
21-25	Yr 10 Camp 2
22	Aoraki Swimming
22-25	Yr 13 Geo trip Mt Cook
23	Aoraki Athletics Uniform shop open 3.30-4.30pm
28 Mar- 3 Apr	Summer Tournament Week

April 2011

5	Roncalli Cross Country
6	National Bank Junior Maths Competition Uniform shop open 3.30-4.30pm
6-8	Yr 13 Bio – Portobello Yr 12 PED – Rafting
13	Yr 13 Chem Trip – Canterbury University
15	Lip Sync Sports Prizegiving End of Term 1

Are you able to help?

The Careers Team is looking for people to talk with senior students about the work they do. This may be a school visit, a phone call and/or a workplace visit.

Please contact Ms Quertier (03) 688-6003 x811 or Mrs Mehrtens x890 ☺

Year 10 Camp

Information letter was sent home Friday (for download from the school website).

- Chocolate for fundraising will be arriving in the next few days. Sold for \$2.50 for each bar (\$1 profit per bar. All money to be handed back to the office and the profit will be deducted from the camp cost. No chocolate to be returned).
- Pack liners are at the office for purchase for \$5.
- Please complete and hand in gear request forms with \$10 deposit to office (first in first served).
- Any queries please email me (address is on letter on website).

Thanks
Guy Sutherland

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Term 1 Accounts: will be posted shortly. The Board of Trustees expects that accounts will be paid promptly. Regular automatic payments are encouraged. Books and curriculum materials are to be paid for on issue and sporting and outdoor events must be paid prior to the student participating in these activities. If debts are incurred the Board reserves the right to pass the debt onto a debt collector and all collection costs or late payment fees will be added to the debt.

Parent Partnership Fund – The Roncalli College Development Foundation Trust use these funds to support the College with projects that are not able to be funded through the normal operational grant. The parent partnership fund is a voluntary contribution from Roncalli Parents.

The Roncalli College Development Foundation Trust is registered as a Charitable Entity and is approved by Inland Revenue as a Donee Organisation whereby donations made to the RCDFT can be claimed as a tax credit by the Donor.



Senior students

Prep Periods

During some prep periods (once a week) students are able to attend sessions on varying topics; the aim being to better inform senior students (Yr 11-13) while deciding their future pathways. We offer information sessions on courses, careers and wellbeing issues.

Visits

Year 12 & 13 students will have the opportunity to visit Canterbury and Otago Universities and Polytechnics along with the Timaru Expo during Terms One and Two.

Scholarships

There are many scholarships available to first year students – please visit the university home pages and look up undergraduate scholarships. We also e-mail a locally compiled Scholarship Booklet to Year 13 students at the beginning of the year.

There is also the option of looking up 'Breakout'; the largest scholarship database at the library.

Career Tools

CareerQuest is an excellent tool for seeing what types of employment are linked with your interests. It takes approx 10-15 minutes to complete online and then you can take time looking at the suggestions and seeing what grabs your interest.

www2.careers.govt.nz/careerquest.html

We would suggest that a minimum leaving school requirement is generally NCEA Level 2.

Please feel free to ring me if you have further queries.

Adrienne Quertier
Careers Adviser/Guidance
Counsellor ☺

Aquinas 3

NOTICES

News

KEEPING

Many
the four main messages are:

Secondhand Uniform Sale

11

- In good

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We're on the Web!
We encourage you to visit:
www.roncalli.school.nz