



RONCALLI COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

' TO SEEK TRUTH AND PEACE '

KIMIHI TE PONO ME TE RANGIMARIE

23 June 2011

Issue 4. Term 2

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of attending the **Big Sing** in Dunedin. The Big Sing is a choral competition that takes place annually throughout New Zealand and Roncalli traditionally competes against several Otago and South Canterbury schools. The top 18 choirs throughout the country will advance to the finals which are to be held in Wellington later this year. Each choir is required to sing 3 pieces that meet specific criteria. Roncalli's programme was as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| • Pre 1930's | How Lovely | (William Byrd) |
| • N.Z. or Pacific Island song | Got A Home In That Rock | (David Hamilton) |
| • Modern Art Piece post 1930's | Angel Breathing Out | (Alisa Blair) |

The Roncalli choir, led by Mrs Robyn Brien, performed to an exceptionally high standard against some very talented and polished choirs. Although they did not win a trophy or award, they certainly were great ambassadors for the college and continued Roncalli's strong choral tradition. I must acknowledge Mrs Brien, Mrs Ward and the members of the choir who volunteered their time at intervals, lunch times, after school and evenings for 18 weeks to prepare for this competition. The students made significant progress during this time and, in turn, contributed to the rich culture of the school. I would also like to thank Mrs Bev Wilton, our Arts Coordinator, for her organisation of the day. I am told that the choir will morph into a **Glee Club** during the second half of the year.

If you would like the opportunity to hear the choir perform their programme from the Big Sing, make plans to come to the **Concert 'n' Candles** which will be held on Thursday 30 June at 7.30pm in the school Hall. Tickets will be on sale at the school office for \$10 and tickets at the door will be \$15. Come along and hear a range of musical talent including choir, instrumental groups, solos, and rock bands. Drinks and nibbles are included in the ticket price.

To conclude this week, I would like to draw your attention to some of the challenges secondary schools are facing in the current educational climate; challenges that will force us to rethink the way we deliver curriculum in the near future.

- **NZQA Standards Realignment** – Unit Standards are being phased out and replaced with Achievement Standards. This will reduce the flexibility that we currently have with NCEA. Unit Standards have advantages for our students because they are delivered in small chunks, are internally assessed and are more practically based with a smaller theoretical component. I think it would be fair to say that Roncalli's past academic success is partially due to the savvy way we have managed NCEA.
- **University Entrance** – There is a consultation process occurring at present about the change to U.E. requirements. Universities have also created a new points system which is altering the actual entrance requirements.
- **Student Retention** – There are more students staying on at secondary school longer and we must find ways to cater for their diverse needs. This means having more flexible programmes and new courses which allow them clear pathways into employment, apprenticeships, polytechs and universities.

One of the hallmarks of Roncalli College is that we are innovative, proactive, and frequently develop strategies to support student learning. For these reasons, I am confident that we will rise to these new challenges.

Until next time,

Chris Comeau

Principal

www.roncalli.school.nz

03 688 6003

PO Box 138,

UPDATES

TERM CALENDER DATES:

JUNE:

- 24 Police Recruitment Information Session
Year 12 Retreat
- 27 ICT Presentations for all students during day – Mountainview High School
- 27-1 July Year 12 OED Tramp
- 29 Christchurch Careers Trip Y12 and 13 – University, CPIT, Lincoln
School Uniform Shop Open 3.30-4.30pm
- 30 Senior Conferencing Day
Concert 'n' Candles Performances 7.30pm School Hall
Design and Art College Presentations

JULY:

- 5 St Thomas' Sports Exchange – Christchurch
Gateway and Transition – Workplace Safety
- 6 Academic Assembly – DEAR time
- 8 University of Canterbury Information and Open Day
END OF TERM 2
- 13 Christchurch Polytech Information and Open Day
- 14 Roncalli Ball
- 26 Broadcasting School Information Evening, Christchurch

AUGUST:

- 1 Term 3 Commences



IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE:

Internet Safety - Monday 27 June

All students will spend a portion of the day at Mountainview High School working with Brett Lee about Internet Safety and Cyber bullying. This is an important and topical issue for our students and is a part of their daily lives. Brett Lee is a former detective and a well-known presenter.

There is an evening presentation at Mountainview High School for members of the community, especially the parents, to hear about the issues and some things that parents and caregivers can do to help their children with this issue. This will be at 7pm in the Mountainview Auditorium for 90 minutes.

Conferencing - Thursday 30 June

The school is having a whole day conferencing opportunity for senior students. This means that all teachers will be involved in this process and the junior students will have an opportunity to study at home for that day. All parents and caregivers of senior students are encouraged to make appointments and attend this day as it is the formal reporting process for the students.

Concert 'n' Candles - Thursday 30 June

On Thursday evening starting at 7.30pm we will be holding a "Concert 'n' Candles evening. This is an opportunity to see our music students perform publicly. This event will be in the hall and the tickets are available by either presale at the school office or at the door.

St Thomas Exchange - Tuesday 5 July

As a result of the earthquake the St Thomas exchange has been moved to this new date and will be in Christchurch.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS ...

2011 College Fair Date— Sunday 2 October 10.30am start. Mark your calendars now!!

We are looking for more **great fences** to put our fair signs on. If you have a big fence that is in a prime spot we could use around Timaru, I would love to hear from you. Please ring Geoff Fuller 684 5962.

PTA committee meetings are usually held the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the School Library. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to come along and have a look, and join the PTA family. Our next meeting date is Tuesday 5 July.

Public Health Nurse – did you know?

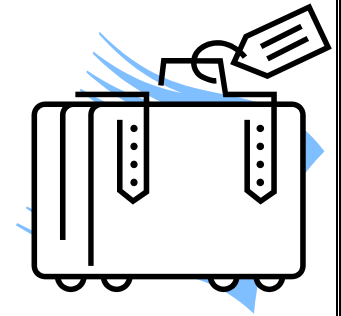
Jane Pierce, a Public Health Nurse, runs a clinic at the College every second Wednesday in our Sick Bay from 1.30-2pm. The next date is Wednesday 29 June. Jane can discuss a whole range of health concerns and issues, and can also run vision checks. If a referral to an optometrist is required, this is heavily subsidised by the public health system.

School Uniforms: Postie Plus have long-sleeved boys grey winter shirts (seconds) up to size 16 for \$10 – be in quick!

Our Uniform Shop is open every second Wednesday from 3.30-4.30pm. Next Open Date Wednesday 29 June.

South Canterbury Social Ballroom Dancing – 6 week beginners' course – Waimataitai School Hall – 6-6.45pm – Commencing Sunday 26 June – Bookings phone 688 7070.

Roncalli Rowing Quiz Night – Wednesday 6 July at The Sail and Anchor. Teams of 4, entry fee \$40. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Raffles. Starts 7pm.

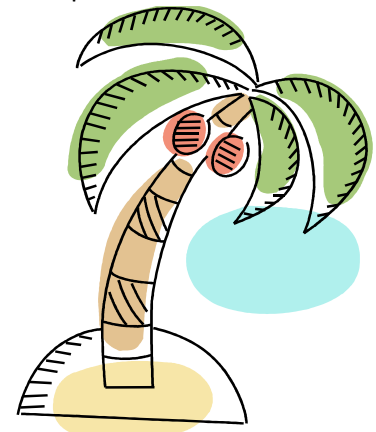


Le Coin Français - “ Bon Voyage!”

This is what 11 Roncalli families will be saying to their youngsters during the July holidays! A group of senior French students is travelling to the Pacific island of New Caledonia!! Mrs Thomas and Ms McKinnon are delighted to be spending ten days in tropical winter sunshine with these excited students. We leave on 17 July from Christchurch, and after a short delay in Auckland, we will wing our way to the first francophone country that most of these students have encountered – a mere three hours away!

This is a linguistic trip so the students will have 15 hours of French lessons while the rest of the school body is on holiday. We will stay with French-speaking families and so will have every opportunity to practise their spoken French. The group will undertake many interesting activities, some of which give us a glimpse into a foreign and exotic culture. We hope to snorkel, visit the aquarium, shop for bargains in the local market, hop on and off local buses and have picnic lunches by the beach or in the park – aptly named Coconut Square. We will see old men playing *pétanque* and watch a display of island dancing and fire-eating. Of course there are gorgeous beaches to be enjoyed. We hope to visit a French school, explore some historic churches and shop in supermarkets whose aisles are bulging with French goods – which do not, unfortunately, come cheap. Food is always of interest so visits to *la crêperie*, *la chocolaterie* and *le glacier* will be appreciated as well as a snack in *MacDo* and its French equivalent, *Quick*.

My thanks go to Mr Comeau for allowing the trip to go ahead, to Ms McKinnon for agreeing to give up some of her well-deserved break to accompany us, and to all those parents who have made sacrifices to enable the students to benefit from this immersion experience. Such a trip is a huge financial commitment and I am aware that saving up has not been easy. Our previous trip in 2009 was a great success and I'm expecting this one to be even better. I trust the students will come back fulfilled, sun-tanned and buzzing with an enhanced interest in the study of a foreign language! *Bon séjour en Nouvelle Calédonie et bon retour!*
Sheila Thomas



DID YOU KNOW ?GATEWAY

The Gateway Programme is well underway for 2011. The TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) has allocated funding for 20 students at Roncalli to participate in the programme this year and we almost have our full quota out on regular work placements for 1 day a week.

Gateway opens a new pathway from school to the world of work. It is an outstanding opportunity to blend school study with workplace learning and experience. Learning is assessed in the workplace and the credits students gain



David Hickey
Power Farming

count towards national qualifications including NCEA; it is equivalent to students starting an apprenticeship while still at school while giving them the opportunity to try out potential careers and to build links to Industry Training Organisations, Modern Apprenticeships and workplaces.

We have students in a variety of industry areas including joinery, electrical engineering, brick & block laying, hairdressing, early childhood education, motor engineering (diesel, automotive & motorbike), tourism, business administration, agriculture, plumbing, hospitality & panel beating.



Thomas Parker
Stewart Farming and Recreation

Each student has an individual learning plan customised to their needs and the needs and requirements of the industry area and employer. Each industry has its own ITO (Industry Training Organisation); the ITO provide learning programmes for their own industry which are often assessed in the workplace by an outside assessor (just like an apprenticeship). Students also attend Polytechnic for courses related to their learning area eg welding, hairdressing, coffee courses etc.

The students in Gateway have all completed First Aid and Workplace Safety courses before starting their work placements and they all have CVs which are updated throughout the year.



Kaitlyn Konior
Timaru I-Site



Silas Ryan
Pleasant Point Panel Beaters

Gateway classroom work is coordinated by Mr King and the workplace learning and assessment is coordinated by Mrs Mehrtens. Entry into the programme is by written application and an interview process. Demand is high for this premium programme and we are hoping to have our application to increase our numbers approved for 2012.



CAREERS

CHRISTCHURCH TRIP – Wednesday 29 June

The bus leaves 6.45am. Students need to bring their lunch. We will visit Uni Hall and Bishop Julius Hall. Students need to let us know which tour they wish to take at the University of Canterbury. There is a notice in the Yr 12 and 13 Common Rooms or see Mrs Mehrtens/ Ms Quertier:

- Engineering/Sciences
- Arts/Humanities/Fine Arts/Commerce
- Education

We will then travel to Lincoln University or CPIT as previously chosen. Any questions please see us before the day.

CAREERS DATES

Friday 24 June Prep	Police Recruitment Information Session Room 27 – all seniors welcome
Wednesday 29 June	Christchurch Careers Trip University, Polytech & Lincoln
Thursday 30 June <i>(Yr 12 OED tramp)</i>	Design and Art College Senior students are invited to attend in Room 27
Friday 8 July	University of Canterbury Information Day An opportunity for students & parents to attend independently (ie school visit is on 29 June)
Wednesday 13 July	CPIT Open Day
Wednesday 13 July	CPIT Sustainability & Outdoor Education Information Session 6pm CPIT Madras St Campus, Christchurch
Tuesday 26 July	Broadcasting School Information Evening 7:30pm, CPIT Madras Street Campus, Christchurch

Careers presentations are organised so that senior students can attend during prep. If you need a prep period please check its availability with: Adrienne ext 811 or Marian ext 890

Aoraki Polytech – Mid – Year Courses

You don't have to leave home to go places!

Mid-year classes begin 18 July, and enrolments at Aoraki Polytechnic are now being taken. Aoraki have career-focused programmes based on the skills and knowledge required from industry to create well rounded, work-ready graduates. Prior to the Christchurch earthquakes, New Zealand already had a trades skills shortage and now the demand is even greater.

To help cater for these demands, Aoraki is offering mid-year starts in several construction trades programmes. Running for the first time are National Certificates in Baking and Animal Care. Aoraki also has mid-year starts in a range of subject areas including Agriculture, Arts and Design, Beauty and Hairdressing, Business and IT, Hospitality and Health and Education.

Contact Aoraki on 0800 426 725 or go to the website www.aoraki.ac.nz

CULTURAL NEWS

On 16 June the 43 members of the Roncalli College Choir travelled to Dunedin to take part in the Secondary School Choral Competition – BIG SING. Twenty two secondary school choirs from South Canterbury and Otago took part. Each choir performed 3 songs for adjudicating. The day concluded with an evening concert which featured a massed item by all choirs. The Roncalli College Choir received some very positive comments from the adjudicator.



CHAMBER MUSIC

Roncalli College was represented in the regional Chamber Music Competition for Secondary Schools on Monday 13 June by the group "Malima Sounds". The group consisting of Matthew Geach, Lisa-Sophie Kuepper and Marie-Christin Kuepper was highly commended.



DANCER RECOGNISED

Lavani Faha is a very excited young lady. Lavani has recently received confirmation that she will be one of six young New Zealanders travelling to Germany in October 2012 to take part in the World Hip Hop dance champs. The competition is organised by the International Dance Organisation. Encouraged to enter by a friend and well supported by family members, Lavani is still finding the news of her success overwhelming.



ST MARYS' LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES

Prior to the choir taking part in the secondary schools choral competition-Big Sing-the choir sang at the lunchtime concert held at St Marys' Anglican Church on Bank Street.



SPECIAL CHARACTER

Last week, McAuley celebrated a House Mass with Fr Chris in the Chapel.

On the 21 June, Fr Pat Devlin visited Roncalli. His main work is with Marist Lay Spirituality. He met with all Year 12 students with stories of commitment and ministry. Fr Pat taught at St Pats so it was lovely to have him with us at Roncalli.

On the 23 June, Deborah Stevens from the NZ Bioethics Council is presenting on a range of Bioethics Topics. She will be working with Years 12 and 13 in the morning and will present to staff as part of our professional development in the afternoon. Deborah is both a scientist and a registered teacher and is also the author and facilitator of New Zealand's first bioethics curriculum at secondary school level. She has a Doctorate from the University of Waikato and is a frequent presenter at international conferencing on Bioethics and education. She was recently named a finalist for the Asian Bioethics Association Bioethics Prize.

On the 24 June, our Year 12 students have the last in their series of Retreats. These have been very successful. Our 1st XV Rugby boys will also be performing the Haka at Strathallan Lifecare.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

St Peters Sports Exchange – Sunday 12 & Monday 13 June 2011

Congratulations to all students who competed in the very successful sports exchange with St Peters College.

Results as follows:

Sport	Roncalli	St Peters
<u>Basketball</u>		
Junior Premier Boy	41	32
Junior Premier Girls	28	32
<u>Hockey</u>		
1 st XI Boys	4	1
1 st XI Girls	2	2
<u>Netball</u>		
Senior A	34	36
10A	29	13
9A	34	21
<u>Rugby</u>		
1 st XV	36	21
Under 15	103	0

Overall Roncalli Won the Exchange 6 – 2.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Roncalli families who opened their homes to billet the students from St Peters; your hospitality is much appreciated. Thank you to our staff, coaches, managers, umpires and referees and the Roncalli PTA for providing a fabulous luncheon for all involved.

MERCY CUP – Tuesday 21 June 2011

Thank you to all our staff, coaches, managers, umpires and referees who travelled with our Roncalli students to Oamaru for the annual Mercy Cup Tournament hosted by St Kevins' College.

Results as follows:

Netball

A Grade – Mercy Cup Runner Up - Roncalli College & St Kevins' College

C Grade – Jubilee Cup Fair Play - Roncalli College

Yr 9 Grade – Mercy Minor Cup Winner – Roncalli College

Soccer A Grade – Mercy Cup Runner Up – Roncalli College & St Kevins College

CONGRATULATIONS to our 9A Netball team who were winners of the **Mercy Cup Minor**, a great achievement girls. Our 9A team is coached by Steph Waud and Karen Dorgan.

PRESS CUP RUGBY – Come support the Roncalli 1st XV Boys this Saturday 25 June 12.00pm at Roncalli College. The Boys are playing St Bedes College. Good Luck Boys.

South Island Schools Cycling Champs – Ruapuna Park Raceway – Christchurch – Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 July.

Good Luck to the following students who are representing Roncalli at the South Island Schools Cycling Champs: Cameron Fitzgerald, Fabian Wybrow-O'Brien, Kate Olsen, Tim Leonard and Katie List.

Roncalli CCC Tracksuit Pants – REMINDER – Orders Close this Friday. Only \$85. Money must be paid to the school office by tomorrow 25 June.

Thank you to McCains for Sponsoring the Roncalli Girls A Hockey Team to help raise money towards tournament.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Tim Bunckenburg and Emily Shearer who will be umpiring at national age group tournaments over the next few months. Tim will be attending the national under 15 premier boys' tournament in Timaru in July after two years at the U13 boys' Hatch Cup. Emily will attend the national Collier Trophy U13 girls' tournament in Palmerston North in October.