

WELCOME TO TERM 3

FROM GARTH WYNNE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



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CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

Each boy at his best.

Dear parents and caregivers

Term 3 begins with meetings between boys, mentors, Housemasters and parents to discuss progress made with regard to each boy's goal setting and plans for 2019. When we introduced mentors and mentor groups as part of our House system of pastoral care, the intention was that not only would Housemasters receive a greater level of support, but also that the boys would have the opportunity to develop closer relationships with other members of staff and other boys in their House.

"Boys mentoring boys" is a powerful idea – and in these groups older boys help younger boys make decisions about school life and, at times, life beyond the gates. This is the essence of the mentor groups. Every meeting is guided by a teacher, but the boys also take responsibility for what goes on. More than 40 mentor groups meet each week and, given the range of personalities involved, the form of such meetings is varied. What is important, however, is that focusing on goals and reflecting on performance is a very constructive way to become self-aware and strive for personal bests, which is a fundamental premise of positive psychology. I trust these meetings go well and enable parents, boys and mentors to take positive steps forward in the latter half of the year.

The term also begins with a significant new community outreach initiative: the Year 11 Wellbeing conference, which will take place on Tuesday 23 July. Using a similar format to our Year 12 Emerging Leaders conference, held in the last week of Term 2, College will welcome students from a number of Canterbury secondary schools for a day focused on student wellbeing. We hope the presentations will inspire the participants to develop good habits

Looking ahead to the end of the year, please mark these dates in your diary:

Thursday 28 November

Junior Prize-giving
Assembly Hall, 3pm
Carols on the Quad, 6pm.
Compulsory for all students.

Friday 29 November

Senior Prize-giving
Assembly Hall, 5.30pm
Leavers' Service
Chapel, 7pm
Leavers' Function
Dining Hall, 7.30–8.30pm

Saturday 30 November

Leavers' Ball, 7.30pm

Please note: the timing of our end-of-year celebrations have been adjusted to accommodate [NCEA examinations](#)

that will sustain them in their final years at school and as they transition to the next stage in their lives. We are extremely fortunate to have internationally renowned child and adolescent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg as a keynote speaker at this conference. I encourage you to check out Dr Carr-Gregg's [website](#) and take a look at [SchoolTV](#) – both resources that give valuable insight into the scope of his work. The Year 11 Wellbeing conference has been developed by Director of Wellbeing & Positive Education John Quinn in collaboration with our sister school, St Margaret's College.

It is interesting to see College's focus on health and wellbeing as a strategic priority is also reflected at a national and international level. Given the recent Wellbeing Budget, it is clear any scepticism or concern about time spent talking about and committing to wellbeing as a construct for students, staff and parents is misplaced. Wellbeing is not a catchphrase or a marketing tool, but rather something to aspire to for every member of our community. Every aspect of our performance as individuals, as members of our families, and as friends and colleagues is enhanced if we have our "wellbeing" right. I felt this very strongly at the 2019 International Boys' Schools Coalition conference in Montreal last month. Many presentations focused on the need for quality relationships and connectedness – a fundamental aspect of our wellbeing approach. If College can help its community understand individually and collectively how to live healthily and well, we are indeed educating for life, as well as enhancing academic, social, emotional and co-curricular outcomes for the boys at school.



The nature of independent schools is that they provide an enormous amount of opportunity for their students through an enriched and diverse programme. Sometimes all this busyness can feel overwhelming – and so, as the term begins, I encourage everyone to focus on good planning and purposeful intent in order to find balance in all we do. To take advantage of our opportunities anticipates intent and purpose. In my experience, a busy engaged boy is usually a happy one and, although this might seem counter-intuitive, is also one who seems to be able to find time to relax amidst the daily rush.

As you may already be aware, despite the best efforts of everyone involved and with the support of some amazing donors, our *For the boys. For our future.* fundraising campaign did not achieve its goal. Therefore, we now have to reconsider how best to enhance sporting excellence, health and wellbeing facilities at College, while still reflecting the aspirations of the Master Plan. We will keep you informed as to next steps as the Board makes prudent and considered decisions regarding revised plans for the development of these facilities. Please be assured the ongoing internal operations of College will not be impacted by this outcome and you can be confident, as always, that what is best for the boys will be at the heart of what we do.

Rangi Bus

The Rangi bus will not operate for the week beginning 22 July because of the Rangi Ruru Girls' School holidays. It will resume on 29 July.

Staff News

We welcome three new teaching staff to College.

Victor Sue-Tang joins the Science department as a Physics teacher. He has been teacher in charge of Physics at Kaiapoi High School since 2017, following his return from Canada where he worked as a deviser and promoter of international computer software. He is also a keen sportsman, being a regular competitor in the New Zealand Curling Championships (Senior Men) and a certified Yachting New Zealand Keelboat Coach.

Fred Poskitt, an experienced Mathematics teacher from Papanui High School, has accepted a fixed term position for Term 3. In 2016 Fred received a long service award for his 40 years of dedication to Papanui.

Sam Leary started as a full-time Technology teacher last term. Sam joins us from Burnside High School, where over the past six years he has gained specialist knowledge of DVC, CAD and CNC software and work environments. His foremost technology teaching experience is with DVC and hard materials (wood). He is already involved in the co-curricular life of College, having participated in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award adventurous journey with Year 10 students, and relishes the opportunity of working to inspire young men through learning experiences that encourage creativity and innovation.

We also welcome Assistant Principal – Curriculum **Nicole Billante** to the College Executive and wish her all the very best in her new leadership role.

The Centre for Teaching Excellence & Research has welcomed three new faces as Acting Heads of Learning.

Sam Squire is providing cover for Katie Southworth while she is on parental leave, **Chris Needle** steps in for Graeme Swanson who is on sabbatical in Term 3, and **Melissa Campbell** joins as Nicole Billante's replacement until the end of the year.

Key Events in Term 3

Student–Parent–Mentor Meetings

Monday 22 July, 1.30–5pm

Review of goal setting (Skype interviews available for long distance boarders)

Parent Education Evening with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg – How technology can help student (and parent) wellbeing

Monday 22 July, Assembly Hall, 7.30–9pm

The internet is evolving and technology is ever faster and smarter, which means – whether we like it or not – young people can be continuously connected online. While there are many well-reported downsides to life online, the reality is that there is also an upside to technology. In this presentation, the founder of SchoolTV and child and adolescent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg will explore how technology – including smartphone apps, web-based programmes and biometric devices – can be used to promote student (and parent) wellbeing and enhance our lives.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Year 11 Wellbeing conference

Tuesday 23 July, OBT, 9am–1.15pm

Round Square International Week

Monday 29 July–Friday 2 August

An international themed week where we celebrate diversity and global citizenship.

REACTION House Plays Festival

Monday 12 August, Assembly Hall, 6.30pm

Condell's, Corfe, Harper, Julius and Rolleston

Thursday 15 August, Assembly Hall, 6.30pm

Jacobs, Somes, Richards, School and Flower's

Year 11 Semi Formal

Saturday 17 August, Assembly Hall, 7.30pm

Māori Language Week

Monday 9–Friday 13 September

Led by the Bicultural Committee, this week acknowledges and celebrates the Māori language as a unique cultural treasure, with a range of activities, promotions and events encouraging the use of te reo Māori.

Year 11 Drama Production

Tuesday 10–Thursday 12 September, 7.30pm

College Senior Ball

Saturday 14 September, Assembly Hall, 7.30pm

Chapel Services

Sunday 28 July, 7pm

Sunday 11 August, 7pm

Sunday 25 August, 7pm

Sunday 8 September, 7pm



Congratulations to Year 13 Mason Whittaker

Mason is playing in the Steven Adams High School Invitational Game at the Sals NBL Final 4 weekend.

Get behind watching Mason play at the Steven Adams High School Invitational game. All students and staff can get \$12 tickets. The tickets will be grouped together for College so everyone can sit together. Seats will be in a stand on the baseline. There is a limit of 50 tickets so get in quick.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#) and enter in the Christ's College Password.

Christ's College Password: **SAHSICHRISTS**

Sunday 21 July, Horncastle Arena

3:10pm – Steven Adams High School Invitational Boys Game

6:30pm Sals NBL Grand Final

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)