

# WELCOME TO TERM 4

FROM GARTH WYNNE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



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**CHRIST'S COLLEGE**  
CANTERBURY  
Each boy at his best.

## Dear parents and caregivers

**College boys – and Old Boys – get everywhere, and I always look forward to following their progress and catching up with them at various events.**

These holidays, four significant College trips have taken place. A football squad has toured North America and Canada, seeing the sights and playing games in Washington, New York, Montreal and Vancouver, to name but a few of the places they have visited. While two College rugby squads, an U16 team and a Panasonic training group, and some of our Japanese language students have visited Japan. The U16 rugby boys have been based in and around Kamaishi, an area devastated by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami but now a host city for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, and the Panasonic group have been training at Ota, Gunma Prefecture, home of the Panasonic Wild Knights, coached by Old Boy Robbie Deans, and in Kobe with the Kobe Steelers. The language tour has enjoyed the best of ancient and modern Japan and spent a few days at our brother school, Konan Boys' High School.

I have been fortunate to join the boys in Japan, and delighted that they have been excellent ambassadors

for College and have got so much out of their different experiences. After leaving Japan, I travelled to Bangkok and Singapore, where College, along with St Margaret's College and Rangitiki Girls' School, hosted joint community events. It was a pleasure to meet with Old Boys, current and prospective parents in these places, and to see how a College education really does lay the foundation for some amazing lives – and stories.

As we look to the end of another school year, I would like to acknowledge our Year 13 students, who have such a short time left in their College journey. They have been fine leaders at school and excellent role models and mentors for the younger boys. I wish them every success for the next stage of their lives and trust their hopes and dreams for the future will be fulfilled. It is a wonderful world and I am confident they are well prepared to find their place in it.



## Managing Behaviour

"Boys will be boys". That facile response to inappropriate behaviour is not acceptable at College and we take reports of disruptive behaviour and bullying very seriously indeed. Our intent is to provide a safe learning environment and to educate boys that violence and other forms of bullying are unacceptable in a civilised society.

College adheres to the principles of Positive Education and, through our health and wellbeing and leadership programmes, encourages the boys to form positive relationships, develop resilience, and make good lifestyle choices. Our pastoral care approach is designed to make sure every boy feels safe and supported, and develops a sense of belonging to the College community. Fortunately, most of our boys are doing just fine, but a minority need help to modify their behaviour.

College investigates all reported incidents of bullying or harassment and responds in a manner determined by the degree of seriousness of the offence, the context and with regard to the best interests of the boys involved. We favour a restorative process, if that is agreed to be acceptable to all parties. Otherwise, punishment might involve loss of privileges or positions of responsibility, through to suspension or expulsion.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Deputy Principal Rob Donaldson oversees all matters relating to discipline. He is assisted by Housemasters who, along with House mentors, keep a close and supportive eye on the boys.

## Real vs virtual worlds

The genie is out of the bottle and, in their pockets, the boys have the means to explore a whole new world. The digital landscape is compelling, so much to see and do, so many ways to connect. It has many benefits, but it also has its downsides.

At College, boys use digital devices in the classroom with confidence, and accessing a wide range of digital resources can enhance learning in ways previous generations could never have imagined. We know there are problems, however, and understand the very real risks of spending too much time online. We put boundaries in place and, by offering a wide range of alternative activities, encourage all boys to develop interests in and enjoy the real world.

As in other aspects of College life, managing the pull of social and other media is a partnership between school, boys and families. We cannot monitor every second of the boys' activity, nor would we want to. We expect them to take responsibility for their actions, use digital devices wisely and in moderation, and seek assistance if necessary. It is a choice for each boy as to how he accesses and uses his mobile phone during the school day. College strongly advocates a managed approach. We hope parents will reinforce our message of responsibility, self-awareness and ownership, as the boys learn to navigate both the real and virtual worlds.

## The week ahead

Look out for our new weekly email with information about the week ahead at College. It will be sent every Friday, highlighting key dates and College events.

## Key dates in Term 4

### Thursday 18 October

Boarders Awards Night

### Wednesday 24 October

CCOBA Gentlemen's Lunch

### Thursday 25 October

Thank you breakfast for Year 13 parents (Condell's & Corfe)

### Friday 26 October

College Film Festival

### Wednesday 31 October

Thank you breakfast for Year 13 parents (Jacobs, Julius & Harper)

### Friday 2 November

CCPA Pink Lunch

### Tuesday 6 November

Thank you breakfast for Year 13 parents (Rolleston & Somes)

### Tuesday 6 November

Year 7 Information Evening

### Monday 12–Wednesday 14 November

Year 10 drama production, with Rangī Ruru Girls' School

### Sunday 25 November

Chapel Advent Service, 7pm





## Staff Changes

### **Peter Hewson**

After 39 years of service, HoD Media Studies Peter Hewson will retire at the end of the year. Peter is something of a polymath, teaching History and Geography, as well as Media Studies, which he describes as being a true multi-disciplinary subject, practical and skills focused. He has done much to promote filmmaking at College, producing award-winning short films and running the annual film festival. We have appreciated Peter's passion and commitment to College, and wish him well for the next stage of his life.

### **Teryl Yogeeswaran**

We welcome Spanish teacher Teryl Yogeeswaran back after parental leave.

### **Lucille Fontaine-Berger,**

We farewell Lucille and thank her for her contribution to the Modern Languages department.

### **Chloe Harland**

With her first child due next February, Classics teacher and HoD Advanced Learning Chloe Harland will go on parental leave at the end of the year.

### **David Griffiths**

We welcome Mathematics teacher David Griffiths back on a fixed term contract to the end of Term 2 2019.

### **Chris Todd**

Mathematics teacher Chris Todd has come to the end of her fixed term contract, but will return as our NZQA Exam Centre Manager in Term 4, facing a busy few weeks before the end of the year.

### **Alfred Perfect**

After 20 years, Finance Manager Alfred Perfect retired at the end of Term 3. He is no doubt already enjoying his celebratory retirement cruise, and has many more adventures planned. Thank you for your splendid work, Alfred, we wish you joy in the years ahead.

### **Connor Phipps**

We welcome Management Accountant Connor Phipps to College's Finance and Operations team.

### **Maureen Pahi and Bev O'Neill**

Maureen had worked at College for 10 years before Bev joined her. They job-shared for the next 33 years, cleaning the boarding Houses, Chapel and OBT, and forging a close working relationship and firm friendship. We thank them for their dedication and hard work and wish them all the best for retirement.

### **Hentus Botha**

South African gap tutor Hentus Botha will head home in November, after being a friendly and helpful "gappy" in 2018. All the best, Hentus, for your future endeavours.

## Student Leaders 2019

Three fine young men have stepped up to take on the top student leadership roles. We are confident Head Prefect Zach Gallagher, Deputy Head Prefect Max Heywood and Head of Boarding Tom Davidson, will prove capable and inclusive leaders and set the tone for another successful year in 2019. The full prefect group will be announced early in Term 4.



*Zach Gallagher*



*Max Heywood*



*Tom Davidson*

## Library

If your son's looking for a quiet place to study or needs a helping hand, think College. The library will open every Saturday morning in Term 4, from 9–11am, except Show Weekend. A librarian and two tutors will be on duty to assist with any questions that may arise.

## Leaving?

If your son does not plan to return to College in 2019, please let us know in writing or via email by the end of Week 1, Term 4. Later notice will incur fees for Term 1, 2019.

For more information, please contact Admissions Registrar Sarah Fechny, [admissions@christscollege.com](mailto:admissions@christscollege.com).



## Managing Exams

In October, [SchoolTV](#) will look at Exam Jitters. Although there are no tricks to study and working hard, there are things you can do to support your son and help him develop good study habits.

Dr Dan Siegel, with Dr David Rock, developed The Healthy Mind Platter, seven daily essential mental activities for optimum mental health and wellbeing. These seven daily activities make up the full set of “mental nutrients” that your brain and relationships need to function at their best.

These essential mental activities strengthen the brain's internal connections and engaging with them every day will give your son the best opportunity to stay on task with his study.

### Focus Time

- When we closely focus on tasks in a goal-oriented way, we take on challenges that make deep connections in the brain. Ensure their study space is comfortable and quiet.

### Fun Time

- When we allow ourselves to be spontaneous or creative, playfully enjoying novel experiences, we help make new connections in the brain. Ensure they have balance with work or study and play.

### Connecting Time

- When we connect with other people, ideally in person, and when we take time to appreciate our connection to the natural world around us, we activate and reinforce the brain's relational circuitry. Ensure they take time to connect face to face during study breaks.

### Physical Time

- When we move our bodies, aerobically if possible, we strengthen the brain in many ways. Ensure they do some form of exercise.

### Time In

- When we quietly reflect internally, focusing on sensations, images, feelings and thoughts, we help to better integrate the brain. Encourage them to practice focusing and to be mindful.

### Down Time

- When we are non-focused, without any specific goal, and let our mind wander or simply relax, we help the brain recharge.

### Sleep Time

- When we give the brain the rest it needs, we consolidate learning and recover from the experiences of the day. Take phones, computers, play stations and TVs out of the bedroom.

Take time to talk to your son about creating a schedule that allows him time to study as well as enjoy other activities. Write the plan and stick it on the fridge, so everyone can see it and use it as a reference point.

## End-of-year Routine

It is hard to believe we are just about at the end of another school year. Senior students go on study leave on Friday 2 November, and NZQA and Scholarship examinations take place from Wednesday 7–Friday 30 November. We have adjusted the end-of-year routine to accommodate students who have examinations on Friday 30 November, our last day of the year.

### Thursday 29 November

3pm – Junior prize-giving, Assembly Hall  
 4pm – Day House functions  
 6pm – Carols on the Quad – whole school event (compulsory attendance)  
 7pm – Flower's, Richards and School House functions  
*Juniors finished for the year*

### Friday 30 November

5.30pm – Senior prize-giving, Assembly Hall (compulsory for all senior students)  
 7pm – Year 13 Leavers' Service, Chapel  
 7.30pm – Function for leavers, their parents and staff

### Saturday 1 December

7.30pm – Leavers' Ball, Air Force Museum, Wigram