

# WELCOME TO TERM 1

FROM GARTH WYNNE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



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CHRIST'S COLLEGE  
CANTERBURY

Each boy at his best.

## Dear parents and caregivers

**Welcome to 2021, and a special welcome to all our new students and staff and their families.**

We begin the year with just over 690 boys enrolled – very close to our capacity of 75 boys in each dayboy House and 60 in each boarding House. I am delighted that so many boys achieved another year of collectively exceptional academic outcomes in NCEA in 2020, across all year levels. Given the challenges that all of us experienced, it is a great credit to the boys themselves, and their teachers, that we have maintained our academic standing.

During the summer break, staff and students have been involved in a wide range of activities. These began with another very successful Sony Camp at the beginning of December, followed by cricket and rowing throughout January. I was fortunate to visit our rowers in Twizel and cricketers in Auckland. It was a delight to see the enthusiasm of the boys as they came together again to engage in what they enjoy, and to observe the fantastic parental support that enabled this to take place.

### **The quality of our lives is the quality of our relationships**

During my New Zealand-bound break, I considered the year ahead and reflected on 2020, whilst as a father and grandfather keeping an eye on events in the United States. I also dwelt on the realities of what was revealed to College following December's hearings of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care. In some ways it is unsurprising that this contemplation brought me back to the simplest of messages as we begin a new year together – a diverse community drawn together by this common mission of bringing

## Important information

The following links will take you to a range of useful information to help you organise your College year.

### **Start of year routine 2021**

[Click here](#) to see activities at College from Wednesday 27 January–Sunday 14 February. Please note, from Monday 1 February the boys are expected to wear their blazers.

### **Key dates 2021**

[Click here](#) to see key dates for 2021, including Chapel services.

### **Key boarding dates 2021**

[Click here](#) to see key boarding dates for 2021.

### **Year 9 welcome**

[Click here](#) to accept our invitation to attend the Christ's College Parents' Association welcome to the College community, which will be held in the Chapman Room, Thursday 25 February, 7.30–9pm.

### **Year 10 welcome and Immerse & Inspire**

[Click here](#) to accept our invitation to attend the Christ's College Parents' Association welcome to College and introduction to our Immerse & Inspire programme, which will be held in the Old Boys' Theatre, followed by drinks and nibbles in the Dining Hall, Thursday 25 February, 7.30–9pm.

each boy to his best. Our life journey is significantly impacted upon by the quality of our relationships; those that last a lifetime or a significant portion of it, and those that are fleeting. It is our engagement with others and our purpose within that contact, which makes us who we are. It develops our character and contributes to the common culture. Our health and wellbeing, our capacity to thrive, our contribution to others are all underpinned by our relationships. We must have, at the core of who we are, guiding principles that are the bedrock of our relationships. We are so fortunate at Christ's College that we have that bedrock in our Christian virtues – in respect, in compassion, in honesty and in justice. As we start 2021, I challenge every person within this community to focus on the quality of their relationships with others, understanding that we have an opportunity to provide lifelong benefit to each other if we work together for our mutual enablement. There is nothing at our school which is more important for our future than the quality of the relationships we build with each other.

### Strategy 2025

This year sees the beginning of a new strategy that will guide the school's broad intent leading up to our 175th celebrations in 2025. Called "Change and Continuity," its themes of focus are Motivation, Connection, Philanthropy and Sustainability. A range of different strategic projects will unfold from these intents over the next five years. I thank those from within our community who have contributed to our thinking as we have formulated the path ahead. College faces the future with great confidence in the full knowledge that our foundations are strong. Our laser-like intent is to bring each boy to his best in the here and now, and well ready for the life journey ahead.

### Staff movements

Several significant staff changes have occurred since the end of last year. After five wonderful years in the role of International Student Manager, Deanne Gath left us in early January to take up a similar role at our sister school, St Margaret's College. We thank Deanne for creating an excellent programme both in building numbers towards our target of having 30 international students within our school community, and for accommodating the needs of our current students through our Covid reality. Deanne has been outstanding. We wish her well in her new role.

At the end of Term 1 we will farewell Melissa Campbell who has been appointed to an executive role at Rangī Ruru Girls' School. This is a wonderful opportunity for Melissa in the area of staff development. She has made an excellent contribution in the English department at College and as a Head of Teaching and Learning in the Centre for Teaching Excellence and Research.

Mid-Term 1 we will farewell for a second time Marg Lawson, Custodian of the school. Marg's contribution to the general management of our campus and the safety and care of our community will certainly be missed. We wish her all the best as she departs for Blenheim in an exciting next chapter.

Finally, it is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Ben Vink as the school's Assistant Principal – Boarding and Immerse & Inspire. Ben will transition from his role of Housemaster of Flower's House during Term 1 when a new Housemaster will be appointed. We congratulate Ben on his promotion.

### Cultivating Empathy and Inclusion in Boys

You are invited to join educators and parents worldwide for the online IBSC Parenting Boys Speaker Series – Cultivating Empathy and Inclusion in Boys, from 2–7 February. Get expert insight from diversity and inclusion strategist Derrick Gay as he covers a wide range of topics to help parents and educators understand the importance of having conversations with boys about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Register here.

## Kapahaka breakfast

We are extending a warm invitation to any boy who wishes to be part of the College kapahaka group, and his parents, to attend breakfast at **8am on Thursday 11th February, in the Dining Hall.** See you there!

## Important information continued...

The following links will take you to a range of useful information to help you organise your College year.

### Parent Education Evenings

Throughout the year College hosts a number of Parent Education Evenings on a diverse range of topics. Two upcoming events include:

#### KEEPING SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

In an engaging and informative way, internet and cyber safety expert John Parsons raises awareness of the dangers associated with inappropriate use of digital communication technology and how to manage and reduce risk. This session will be held in the Chapman Room on the evening of Tuesday 2 February. [Click here](#) to book.

#### MAKING USE OF THE PARENT PORTAL

We strongly recommend you make time to attend one of these training sessions about how to make best use of the Parent Portal on Schoolbox. These sessions will be held in the Old Boys' Theatre on Tuesday 9 or Thursday 11 February at either 4.30–5.30pm or 6.30–7.30pm. [Click here](#) to book.

#### NCEA Information Evening – for first time NCEA parents, or if you'd just like to know more.

Join us on Tuesday 16 February, 7–7.45pm (an opportunity to ask those all important questions) for an informative session presented by Nicole Billante, Assistant Principal – Curriculum. [Register here.](#)

#### Purposeful punctuality

It is good to be punctual, as it shows respect and helps ensure the school can run smoothly. With this in mind, please take a look at this year's [weekly routine](#).

#### Upcoming Events

We have a packed programme of parent and community events. The [Upcoming Events](#) page on our website lists all events where you need to register your intention to attend, with links to the booking site.



## Mobile phones on campus

A reminder of our mobile phone policy.

In essence, boys must not use their phones during the school day (8.30am–3.35pm) in class and around the campus. Phones must be on silent in lockers, bags or blazers. The only exception would be if a teacher gave permission for the use of phones for educational or emergency purposes.

The boys will have access to their phones in their Houses at morning break and during lunchtime, but Housemasters will also arrange “digital free time,” where both mobile phones and laptops are put aside in favour of other activities.

There are many benefits to limiting mobile phone use and breaking a digital addiction, including reducing distraction, gaming, use of social media platforms and cyberbullying. We hope you will join us in encouraging your son to be happy to relinquish his mobile phone and be more present and attentive while at school.

The *Weekend Australian Magazine* featured a useful article about how to make your mobile phone less addictive. [Read it here.](#)

## Email protocols

While email is one of the most efficient ways to contact teachers and other students, as with all digital technologies, we expect our staff, students and families to use it wisely and adhere to our email protocols:

- use Christ’s College email addresses for all matters relating to College
- keep your emails as concise as possible
- always be polite
- teachers are not expected to read work-related emails in the evening or on the weekend – however, they are expected to respond as soon as convenient and preferably within 24 hours

## Make a good impression

We expect our boys to take care of their appearance and maintain high standards of personal care. Our uniform and grooming standards are designed to encourage self-respect and self-management and instil a sense of pride in being part of the College community. We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations.

### Uniform

All boys should have

- clean uniform
- belts (black) for their shorts and trousers
- black shoes (either lace-up or slip on) – not boots
- shirts that fit around the neck
- short black and white socks

A sewing and alteration service is available through the Uniform Shop. For more information, telephone 03 364 8613 or email Ann Shaw at [ashaw@christscollge.com](mailto:ashaw@christscollge.com)

### Hair

Boys must be clean-shaven at all times and should make sure their hair

- is kept neat, clean and tidy
- is kept clear of the collar, off the ears and off the eyebrows
- is not dyed or gelled, tied up or pinned
- is not shorter than a “number 2”
- does not have lines or designs shaved into it, or sideburns that extend below the opening to the ear
- does not have long sections that can be fashioned into long fringes, dreadlocks, plaits, rats’ tails, mohawks, top knots or mullets

There may be some exceptions to the above for cultural or other reasons. Deputy Principal Rob Donaldson will be final arbiter of any decisions relating to hair and personal appearance.

# WASS'

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## BARBERS

BY WASSEIM SATI

**Wass' Barbers on site on  
Tuesday 2 February from 9am**

Wasseim himself will be present to  
give your son a quick haircut to look  
sharp for the new year.

For every \$25 haircut \$5 will be  
donated to the City Mission.



# A warm welcome to our new staff

## **Hannah Clarkson**

*Director of Drama*

Hannah has been involved in theatre for more than 30 years and teaching for 20. She is familiar to our school, having worked as choreographer and director for many joint drama productions involving students from College and Rangī Ruru Girls' School. Her skills encompass drama, dance and singing but also extend to leadership, pastoral care, wellbeing, digital engagement and counselling; she is currently working towards her Masters in counselling. She was engaged in many different roles at Rangī Ruru, but her greatest passions lie with Drama and the Performing Arts. Hannah believes there is nothing better than seeing the growth and development of a student – both in the classroom and on the stage.

## **Robbie Turrell**

*Commerce*

Robbie moves south from Onslow College in Wellington where he was the subject leader of Business Studies. He is an impassioned Commerce teacher keen to undertake a new challenge working in boys' education. By creating "real life enterprise opportunities" within his lessons, he believes the Commerce subjects empower boys with the real life skills required as 21st century active learners. Robbie enjoys an active lifestyle with interests in a range of sports and activities including football, cricket, cycling, yoga and surfing. He is fluent in Spanish and motivated by travel, having lived and worked in several different places in the world. He says he has a love of learning and is inspired by people, languages and cultures

## **Chris Waugh**

*HoD English*

Chris has taught English for 18 years in New Zealand and the United Kingdom, including a decade in the position of Head of Department for English. From Mt Aspiring College, Wanaka, where he was Assistant Head of Learning for English, Chris' greatest passion is teaching and in 2020 he received the National Excellence in Teaching award. He has developed and shared many online programmes and teaching resources which have been used extensively by teachers throughout New Zealand and the UK. He has been involved in school productions and performances, coached debating and contributed to Young Enterprise programmes. He has enjoyed success coaching triathlon and cycling and for three years supported the sailing programme at the London Nautical School. Chris approaches every student as a whole person, with a family, a culture and a story of their own.

## **Josh Kim**

*Social Sciences*

Josh is embarking on his teaching career at College, having completed his Master of Teaching and Learning at the University of Canterbury in 2020. Majoring in History and Political Science, he has a passion for the Humanities and the rich gifts historical literacy can provide. As a Korean-New Zealander and an aspiring bi-cultural educator, he is keen to develop forward-thinking pedagogies that affirm diverse culture and identities, and enable students to develop an understanding about human interactions and our 'place' in the world. By this, he likes to support individuals to take risks, and explore new ideas and avenues of thought. Josh serves in leadership roles in the church and cultural organisations, and is a Korean-New Zealand Antarctic-relations ambassador.

## **Kirsty Robinson**

*Counsellor*

A Registered Psychologist, Kirsty joins the Centre for Wellbeing & Positive Education from her role as a psychologist in Learning Support at the Ministry of Education. Widely experienced, she has a Postgraduate Diploma of Child and Family Psychology and a Master of Arts (Child and Family Psychology). She began work as a Probation Officer in Wellington and Porirua, followed by work as an Intern Psychologist with Family Works and Mana Ake, a School Attendance Advisor for Wellbeing North Canterbury Community

Trust and as a Senior Policy Advisor with the Department of Corrections. Throughout, she has partnered with Oranga Tamariki, NZ Police and a range of other NGO and Canterbury District Health Board clinicians. She is passionate about ensuring the rights of children, young people and their families are upheld, and is eagerly anticipating working in a boys' school setting.

## **Riki Clark**

*Counsellor*

Riki comes to College as a Specialist Clinician with the Children's Service of Stop Services. He was formerly a lead professional with the Children's Action Team. His counselling career began at Te Puna Oranga and the Department of Corrections. Riki was a counsellor at Hillmorton High School, and integrated counselling approaches with a Te Ao Māori lens while involved in the total immersion Māori language school, Te Kuakaupapa Māori o Te Whanau Tahi. As well as counselling, Riki has previously worked as a teacher and performing arts choreographer, and is an active member of the netball community. He has coached at representative level and has the Performance Coach qualification for Netball NZ. He has also qualified and worked as a personal trainer and is a confirmed Tohunga with a strong interest in Māori language.

## Important information continued...

Our **Calendar** is the best way to keep up with the myriad of events and activities at College. You can scroll through to see what is going on, and add individual events to your own calendar.

### **Community Events**

Look out for our Community Events in 2021. Dates and details will be published on the Upcoming Events page on the website. We will be holding events in the Queenstown–Arrowtown area, Timaru, Ashburton, Tai Tapu, Christchurch City, Sumner, Rangiora, Marlborough, Nelson, Wellington and Auckland. Whether you are a current, future or past parent, an Old Boy, or friend of College, we hope you will join us. Everyone's welcome.

### **Absence Line**

For daily absences or illness, please call our Absence Line on 03 364 8676, and leave your son's name and the reason for his absence.

### **Stationery**

Please [click here](#) to access the appropriate stationery list for your son's year level. Here you can also access all other forms – for example, Medical, Speech & Drama, Music etc.

### **Red Bus school transport**

The Metro school bus service has been confirmed for 2021. Please [click here](#) for route maps and timetables. These services run Monday–Friday in term time and do not operate on public holidays.

## Reminder ... 2020 College photographs now available

[Click here](#) to access all House, sport, individual, cultural and end-of-year photographs.

Create an account using the **access code u902cc20** and follow the instructions on the site to download or order printed copies.