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# Dear parents and caregivers

#### Looking Ahead: Our Vision for 2025-2030

In Term 1, our Board of Governors and Senior Leadership Team came together to develop a strategic roadmap for College, guiding us toward 2030. It was an inspiring and collaborative day, filled with aspirational discussions about our future. This process allowed us to reaffirm our identity as a College community and to identify key priorities that will ensure our boys have every opportunity to pursue excellence.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all parents and students who contributed to these conversations through their invaluable feedback in last year's MMG survey. Your voices have helped shape our path forward.

#### Our Strategy: 2025-2030

Our Vision – Matawhānui

Christ's College will be an Anglican school community that educates boys to become men of virtuous character, empowering them to make a positive difference in society.

Our Mission – Whakatakanga Each boy at his best. Tama tū, tama ora; ki te tū, taioreore.

#### Important dates

#### Key dates for 2025

Please read our <u>Key dates</u> and <u>Key boarding dates</u> to find all the information about College events and activities through to the end of the year.

#### Wednesday 30 May-Thursday 1 May

Annual Winter Exchange with Otago Boys' High School will be held in the first week of Term 2. The game details are below.

#### Wednesday 30 May

6.30pm - basketball - Upper West

#### Thursday 1 May

10.30am – 1st XI football – English Park

10.30am – 1st XI hockey – Nunweek Park

12.30pm – 1st XV rugby – Upper

## Thursday 8 May – Years 12–13 NCEA parent/teacher/student meetings (online).

These are held from 3–7pm. Parents have been sent information to make bookings. School will finish at 1.10pm on this day.

Our Motto – Whakapepeha Bene tradita, bene servanda. 'Good traditions, well maintained.'

#### How will we fulfil our Vision and Mission?

#### **Strategic Priorities**

- Academic Performance Ensure that College is the leading academic school for boys in New Zealand.
- Financial Sustainability Ensuring prudent stewardship of resources for long-term success.
- Co-Curricular Excellence Deliver outstanding co-curricular programmes that develop character, confidence, and leadership in our students
- Recruitment & Retention of Exceptional Staff Attract, develop, and retain high-quality staff
- Community Engagement Strengthen connections with all stakeholders to optimise the College experience.

#### What will shape the culture of our College?

Our Anglican Virtues – Ngākau Matatika

- Honesty Pono
- **Spirituality** Wairuatanga
- Compassion Ngākau Aroha
- Learning Ngā Akoranga
- Respect Ngākau Whakamiha
- Stewardship Kaitiakitanga
- Justice Manatika

Our staff will now turn their focus toward crafting actionable goals and operational actions to bring these strategic priorities to life.

#### **Alcohol Policy**

As highlighted in the latest edition of *In Black & White*, we have updated our <u>Alcohol Policy</u> to provide clear guidance on when alcohol may be served at College functions.

The policy reflects our commitment to fostering a physically and emotionally safe environment for students, staff, and the wider College community.

Key changes include:

- Restricting alcohol at events where students are present.
- Prohibiting alcohol when teaching staff are required to be on duty.

These measures align with our obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and the Education

and Training Act 2020, reinforcing our dedication to well-being and responsible practices.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we uphold these standards for the benefit of our entire community.

#### Winter uniform

The formal suit is worn on Mondays and Fridays in Terms 2–3 and for Sunday Chapel services. The blazer is worn on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in Terms 2–3, with long trousers. No shorts are to be worn during Terms 2–3. Boys can also wear the black College jersey or black College vest under their blazer.

#### **Anzac Day Service**

Please note that for the **Anzac Day Service on Wednesday 30 April**, boys must wear their suits as we join together to commemorate Anzac Day with a special service remembering our fallen Old Boys. The service, which will be held on the Quad, will be led by The Reverend Canon Cameron Pickering.

#### Double parking - Gloucester Street

Parents are once again reminded NOT to double park when picking up or dropping off boys in Gloucester Street. It is important to adhere to appropriate parking practices to ensure the safety of our boys following reports of near misses.

#### King's Birthday Exeat Weekend

Boarding Houses close at 3pm on Saturday 31 May and reopen at 3pm on Monday 2 June.

### Important dates cont.

## Tuesday 3 June – Annual Christ's College vs CBHS Rugby Match.

For the first time since 2020, College will host the annual Christ's College vs CBHS Rugby Match on Upper. The game starts at 1pm, with further details to follow.

#### Thursday 19 June - CCPA House Music Festival.

Due to demand in recent years, every family will have the option of securing two seats for the 2025 Christ's College Parents' Association House Music Festival on Thursday 19 June in the Christchurch Town Hall. However, each family MUST register <a href="here">here</a> to secure those seats. If there are any spare tickets, priority will be given to Year 13 families. Families can also register to join the waitlist for any extra tickets. All tickets will be emailed to families nearer to the festival date.

#### Weekly routine

The weekly routine for Terms 2–3 can be viewed here.

#### Hair and presentation

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 – Student Care Ben Vink will be final arbiter of any decisions.

### Co-curricular events wrap

Term 1 was a massive one for sport at Christ's College, with students stepping up across a wide range of codes. From dominant team performances to individual brilliance, the term was packed with highlights and gained momentum heading into winter sport.

Athletics continues to go from strength to strength. At the Canterbury Secondary Schools Championships, a record 42 boys made finals, and 11 school records were broken throughout the season. Max Hurring (U15) was a standout, winning four gold medals and contributing to a new relay record. Senior athlete Harrison Laing claimed bronze in the 400m at nationals, and Otto Church set a school pole vault record at 3.65m.

The South Island Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships were held in Nelson, with College athletes earning 10 gold, nine silver, and six bronze medals. A special mention to Jake Boyd who won gold in the U15 80m hurdles, discus, javelin, and shot put.

In cricket, there was promising depth and development across the board. Year 9 teams showed potential and strong sportsmanship. The Colts team finished 3rd in a competitive grade, while the Development XI took out its grade title, thanks in part to 18 wickets from Angus Laing and 223 runs from James Parker. The 2nd XI showed grit and growth as the season progressed, with Zac Croft bagging 20 wickets. The 1st XI, under captain Flynn Holdem, finished second in the two-day competition. Louie Garry and Jackson Grace were both prolific with the ball, taking more than 30 wickets each and Flynn, Alf Markham, and James Hunter all scored more than 400 runs.

Volleyball achieved its best-ever results. The Senior A team made the top 10 at nationals, finishing 10th out of 96 teams, and secured 3rd place at the Canterbury Championships. The Senior B team also performed well, placing 4th in its division. A new senior social volleyball competition brought energy and inclusiveness to the programme, with teams mixing across Houses and year levels.

Mountain biking continues to gain traction, with more than 50 boys riding competitively. College placed 4th overall across all disciplines at the South Island Championships. The highlights included Wilbur Talbot winning the U16 cross country and Tawhai Anglem placing 2nd in Enduro. Strong team performances in relay events added to the success, with several boys placing in the top 10 across multiple events.

Polo had a fast-paced and exciting term. A highlight was the 6–2 win over the visiting USA schools' team. In the SUPA series, the A team dominated in both attack and defence, while the B team showcased rapid improvement and tactical awareness. Several College riders received 'best thoroughbred' awards for their mounts.





Rowing hit record participation numbers, with 104 rowers involved. The highlight of the season was the Maadi Regatta, where Christ's College performed exceptionally well. A total of 15 crews made either A or B finals, showcasing the depth of talent within the squad. College rowers secured five medals – a gold in the U15 octuple sculls and four bronzes.

Sailing was dominant again, taking out the Top of the South title for the third year in a row. College won 19 of 21 races, showing skill and consistency. Saxon Foggo and Sam Nicholl placed 3rd in the National 420 fleet regatta, earning selection to represent New Zealand at the World Youth Sailing Championships. Will Leech also qualified to compete at the 29er Worlds in Portugal for his second consecutive year.

Tennis had a strong term on the courts. Our Years 9 and 10 teams topped their competitions, with several players showing promise. The Senior B1, B2, and B3 teams went one-two-three in their grade. The Premier A team finished runner-up at the South Island Championships and performed well at the Canterbury Championships.

Water polo had a term of growth and exciting progress. The senior team, captained by Louis McKeon, placed 4th at South Islands in a hard-fought campaign. Jack Gorrie earned most improved player for his development and influence in the pool. The junior team impressed with a strong 8–2 record, finishing 3rd. The season ended with a thrilling 5–4 win over Christchurch Boys' High School in the bronze medal match.



A big thank you to our staff, coaches, managers, parents, and volunteers – your support makes this all possible. We are incredibly proud of the efforts of our boys, and we look forward to carrying this momentum into the winter season.

Several winter preseason trips took place during the holidays:

- 1st XI football Preseason Quad Tournament (6–9 April) – Nelson
- 1st XI Hockey Anzac Preseason Tournament (22–24 April) – Timaru
- 1st XV Senior Rugby Camp at IRANZ (24–26 April) – Wellington

Our sailing team is competing at the Secondary School Team Sailing National Championships in New Plymouth from 21–27 April.

The Christ's College cricket tour to UAE and the UK and the basketball tour to the United States are coming to a close, delivering amazing opportunities and lifelong memories to the students. In all, 26 boys and four staff have been involved in the cricket tour, taking in the sights of UAE and playing in extremely hot conditions against multiple teams. In the UK, College has played competitive matches against teams from some of the leading schools, including Eton, Dulwich, Radley, and Rugby.

On the basketball tour, 27 players and four staff have taken in the sights in Anaheim, Phoenix, San Antonio, and Dallas while playing games, and attending camps and several NBA games.





#### Staff updates



**Hugo Zanker** *Director of Music* 

Hugo Zanker has been appointed Director of Music following the retirement of Robert Aburn. Hugo joined College in May 2024 as a Music teacher, having previously been Music Head

at Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School. Holder of a Graduate Diploma of Teaching and Learning from the University of Canterbury, a Master of Music in cello performance from Freiburg Music University in Germany, a Bachelor of Music (Hons), and a Bachelor of Fine Arts, UC, Hugo will lead the Music Department in co-curricular and curriculum areas.



Charlotte Ensor

Admissions Registrar
Charlotte Ensor has been appointed Admissions
Registrar. Holder of a Bachelor of Teaching and Learning from the University of Canterbury, Charlotte has been involved in College administration,

philanthropy, and academics prior to her new role.



Simon Mulholland

Assistant Director of Sport and Rugby Convenor

Simon Mulholland has been appointed Assistant Director of Sport at College and Rugby Convenor. He joins College from Sedbergh School in Britain where he has been

Director of Rugby and Assistant Director of Sport. His impressive coaching credentials include being voted NextGenXV Schools Rugby Coach of the Decade and playing a pivotal role in developing top-tier schoolboy rugby talent, with many of his former players progressing to national and professional levels. In his new role, Simon will support the strategic direction of sport at College, overseeing key operational aspects of the sports programme, and leading our rugby, athletics, and water polo programmes.



Gill Blacker

Events Manager and Executive Assistant – Academic Management

College Events Manager Gill Blackler will also take on the role of Executive Assistant – Academic Management. Holder of a Master of Science

in Geography from the University of Canterbury, Gill has worked in independent schools in both Christchurch and England.



Kris Miller

Physical Education & Health teacher, Head Strength & Conditioning Coach

Holder of a Physical Education degree and a Diploma in Teaching, Kris Miller will take up a fixed-term role as a Physical Education & Health

teacher, alongside his current position as Head Strength & Conditioning Coach at College. Kris has vast experience in coaching and conditioning roles.



**Christopher Nye** 

Religious Education and Music teacher

Holder of a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary), and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and English, along with a Minor in Psychology, Religious Education and Music teacher

Christopher Nye will extend his time at College until the end of the year.

#### **Charlotte Edgerley**

Mathematics teacher (parental leave cover)

Holder of a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University and a Postgraduate Certificate in Science from University College London, Charlotte Edgerley joins College from Charter School North Dulwich in London. She will be a member of the Mathematics Department as parental leave cover for Aldine Vorbeck.



#### Giselle Pasten and Stacey James

Day Matron and Assistant to the Boarding Housemaster Giselle Pasten and Stacev James have taken up permanent roles of Day Matron and Assistant to the Boarding Housemaster in Richards House and Flower's Houses, respectively. Both have considerable experience in pastoral care within the boarding Houses. Giselle has been a non-residential tutor and Acting Day Matron in Richards House while Stacey most recently has been the

Acting Day Matron in Flower's House

#### Staff departures

Robert Aburn has retired from his role as Director of Music after a 21-year career at College.

Archivist Jane Teal leaves us this term, wrapping up her considerable tenure with the opening of the College Museum.

Liam O'Leary has left his roles as Immerse & Inspire tutor, rowing coach, and PE teacher after three years at College.

Workshop Technology teacher Kerry Brockelbank has left College after more than two years, having also helped to build several Drama production sets.

#### International travel

Five College boys have made the most of student exchange opportunities, with Alex Johnstone having headed to Bridge House in South Africa, two Year 11 students, including Lucas Zhong, visiting St Paul's Coeducational College in Hong Kong, and Teddy Hailey and James McNeill spending time at the Montgomery Bell Academy in Tennessee. We look forward to welcoming their exchange hosts to College.

#### Drama

In Drama, the Shakespeare in Love cast has been busy with rehearsals for performances in the fourth week of Term 2 (Tuesday 20 May-Saturday 24 May).

A great deal of work is also going on behind the scenes for the senior production with Rangi Ruru Girls' School, with sets being built and work under way on sound and lighting.

Click below to book through eventfinda.

College was also represented at the regional Sheilah Winn National Shakespeare Festival in the last week of Term 1, securing a spot at the national festival.





CHRIST'S COLLEGE & RANGI RURU GIRLS' SCHOOL PRESENT

CHRIST'S COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

20-24 MAY

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