



WELCOME TO TERM 4

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CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY
Each boy at his best.

Dear parents and caregivers



In our last week of Term 3, we revived an important tradition as part of our 175th celebrations – Spring Carnival. It is a special week, with boys engaging in a wide range of activities in which everything is organised by the boys, for the boys. This is student leadership in action, where our young men are entrusted with ownership, initiative, and creativity. During this week, we also had the pleasure of announcing the 2026 Prefects, another reminder of

the central role student leadership plays in the life of Christ's College.

At College, we place great emphasis on the development of leadership because we believe it is one of the most powerful ways young men can grow in character. Leadership here is not simply a matter of age or position. It is shaped through opportunities to step forward, to take responsibility, and to learn from both success and failure. For this reason, leadership can be embraced by all boys, not just the Prefects.

My message to the boys is that true Anglican leadership is grounded in the principle of service, the willingness to put the needs of others before one's own and to act for the benefit of the whole community. In serving their peers, the boys discover that real influence comes not from authority, but from trust, respect, and the example of humility. This understanding equips our young men to leave College ready to serve and lead in their families, professions, and wider society, carrying with them a spirit of stewardship and faith.

This year's senior leaders, Ihaka Cate, Aaron Kwak, and Harrison Laing, have each exemplified this servant leadership in their own way. They have given tirelessly of themselves, offered a steady hand in moments of challenge, and shown humility in their service. Their contributions to College life have been outstanding, and I thank them sincerely for the legacy they leave.

Important information

Term 4 dates

Key dates 2025

[Click here](#) to see key dates for 2025.

Key boarding dates 2025

[Click here](#) to see key boarding dates for 2025.

Weekly routine

In Term 4, we revert to the Term 1 [weekly routine](#).

Sunday 5 October

Boarding Houses open at 3pm for Term 4 (all boarders due back in House by 8pm)

Tuesday 4 November–Saturday 8 November

Junior Production – *The Lightning Thief*, Old Boys' Theatre

Monday 17 November–Sunday 23 November

Junior Tournament Week

Public holidays

Labour Day – Monday 27 October

Canterbury Anniversary Day – Friday 14 November

Looking ahead, it is with great pleasure that I announce and congratulate our 2026 Head Prefect, Joshua Shannahan, along with Deputy Head Prefects Felipe Felitti-Duter and Archie Nijjar (Boarding). These young men have already demonstrated leadership qualities, and I very much look forward to working alongside them as they take on these important responsibilities.

I also wish to thank Matt Cortesi for his guidance and support of our Prefects. His mentorship ensures that each student leader not only grows in confidence but also understands the responsibility that comes with leadership.

As we reflect on traditions like the Spring Carnival and the ongoing legacy of leadership, we are reminded that leadership is learnt through action, service, and faith. At Christ's College, we are proud to provide the opportunities, challenges, and encouragement that help shape tomorrow's leaders – young men who are called not only to lead, but also to serve.

Joe Eccleton **Headmaster**



End-of-year textbook returns

All textbooks and English class novels are due back before the end of Term 4. Due dates vary slightly for each year group, based on final classes or exams. Families will be billed for any books not returned by the final return dates. Students will receive automated reminders in the lead up to the final dates.

Years 9–10 – Tuesday 25 November (before the end-of-year service and outdoor education programmes start)

Year 11 – Tuesday 25 November (if textbooks are required for a prep exam on Wednesday 26 November, they may be kept for an extra day)

Years 12–13 – Friday 21 November (except for books for French and Japanese but these must be returned by Wednesday 26 November)

College magazine and Register

Please note, *College* magazine will not be published this year as its future format is considered, and the publication date of *Register 2024* has been extended to later this year.

New staff



Peter de Blois

ONZM, BMus (VUW), LTCL, Grad.Dip.
Teaching (VUW), ARSCM

Teacher-in-Charge – Choir

Peter de Blois will have special responsibility for the Chapel Choir from 28 October 2025. For the past 12 years, he has been a music teacher and Head of Music in a wide range of schools, including Scots College, Porirua College, and two schools in the UK. Most recently, Peter has been Head of Music at Southland Girls' High School. He is an Honorary Associate of The Royal School of Church Music for services to church music in New Zealand. In the 2025 King's Birthday Honours, Peter was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in recognition of his dedication to music as a singer, choral conductor, and educator. He has also been an examiner for Trinity College and an adjudicator for The Big Sing.



Sam Bosworth

Rowing coach

Old Boy – and 2020 Tokyo Olympics gold medallist – Sam Bosworth will join the College rowing coaches this season. A Senior Honours Tie recipient, Sam won gold as the coxswain for the men's eight at the 2020 Olympics. Sam coxed his College crew to win the Maadi Cup in 2012 before being selected for the national junior men's coxed four and guiding the New Zealand crew to gold at the World Rowing Junior Championships. He then stepped up to the U23 level, winning gold in 2016. In 2017, he coxed the elite women's eight, winning World Rowing Cup gold and silver, and then bronze at the World Rowing Championships.



Andrew Ellis

1st XI cricket coach

Andrew Ellis has been appointed Head Coach of the College 1st XI. A former Black Cap and long-serving Canterbury representative, Andrew has had a distinguished domestic and international career that includes more than 350 matches for the province and 20 matches for the national side. At present, he is the South Island Manager at High Performance Sport New Zealand. He will work alongside Assistant Coach Louis Gunn.



Karen Cowan

Payroll officer

Karen Cowan will take over from Robyn Matheson in the Finance Office. She has spent the past two years working for a software provider in the payroll space.

Year 11

Exams

All College Diploma prep courses, where appropriate, will have an examination. Exams will run from Wednesday 19 November–Wednesday 26 November. During these exams, boys will be on study leave to focus on performing at their best. Exam results will be used to determine their readiness for chosen NCEA subjects.

End-of-year experience – Finding Your Pathway

Year 11 students will then have their end-of-year experience as they complete the Ngā Miha Mātauranga – Christ's College Diploma. The focus will be on the transition from the College Diploma to readiness for NCEA. Year 11 students will spend the last days of the school year taking part in our 'Finding Your Pathway' programme. Graduating from the Diploma into NCEA study is a good time to start thinking about the post-College options available. The programme will include visits to tertiary institutions and local businesses, along with on-site career workshops led by Old Boys. This programme has been designed to broaden boys' thinking about potential education and career pathways at an important transition time. It will run from Monday 1 December–Thursday 4 December.

Year 10

End of year

Classes for Year 10 students will finish on Tuesday 25 November. During the following seven days, the boys will be involved in multiple experiences, including the Kōhitiā programme or a marae visit, and then a community service programme. All will contribute to your son's Ngā Miha Mātauranga – Christ's College Diploma. This will conclude on Thursday 4 December.

Year 9

Final week

Classes for Year 9 students will finish on Wednesday 26 November. Following this, the boys will be involved in an outdoor education programme, including a two-day overnight camp and four day trips. Boys will attend a compulsory pre-camp briefing, with the date confirmed later in Term 4. Camp commitments will, where possible, accommodate any junior sport tournaments or co-curricular activities that take place during this time. This will conclude on Thursday 4 December.

Years 12–13 end of year

The last day for Years 12–13 classes is Wednesday 29 October (Term 4, Week 4). This provides time for study, in preparation for NCEA exams starting on Tuesday 4 November. Prior to the start of these exams, teachers will be available in their classrooms to assist students, as per their regular subject timetable. The exam timetable can be found [here](#).

Years 9–11 end of year

The last day for Years 9–11 is Friday 5 December. There are no classes on this day but all boys are required to attend Prize-giving. It is all about celebrating the year. Boys must wear their suits.

Prize-giving

The full-school Prize-giving will be held at the Christchurch Town Hall on Friday 5 December at 1pm. Please note that this year, all Silver and Gold Year 11 College Diploma award recipients will now be recognised at a special Assembly rather than at Prize-giving. We will notify parents and caregivers of the Diploma Assembly date.

Term 4 Chapel services

Sunday Chapel services are as follows:

Sunday 19 October (Years 11–13) – 7pm

Sunday 9 November (Years 9–11) – 7pm

Sunday 30 November – Advent Service (Years 9–10) – 7pm

Please note that Years 9–11 are expected to attend two Sunday Chapel services during Term 4, and Years 12–13 one service.



End-of-year celebrations by House

Condell's House

Dinner and prize-giving

Tuesday 16 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Corfe House

Dinner and prize-giving

Tuesday 21 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Flower's House

Prize-giving

Thursday 4 December, 4pm, Flower's House

Harper House

Dinner and prize-giving

Thursday 23 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Jacobs House

Dinner and prize-giving

Thursday 28 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Julius House

Dinner and prize-giving

Tuesday 30 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Richards House

Dinner and prize-giving

Friday 31 October, 6.30pm, Chateau on the Park
a DoubleTree by Hilton

Rolleston House

Dinner and prize-giving

Saturday 1 November October, 7pm, Dining Hall

School House

Dinner and prize-giving

Friday 24 October, 6.30pm, Chateau on the Park
a DoubleTree by Hilton

Somes House

Dinner and prize-giving

Friday 31 October, 7pm, Dining Hall

Summer uniform (Terms 4 and 1)

All students are expected to wear the summer uniform when they return to school. It consists of black shorts, with a black belt, and short black socks with two white stripes. Boys can wear long trousers in the summer if they wish. When shirt sleeves are rolled up, they must sit neatly above the elbows. Students must wear blazers to Chapel on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and to Assembly. Suits are to be worn to Sunday Chapel and Prize-giving.

Looking smart for Term 4

Please ensure that all boys return to school clean shaven and with the appropriate haircuts and hair lengths. Click [here](#) for further guidelines.



Term 4 boarders return date

We look forward to welcoming back all of our boarders from 3pm on Sunday 5 October. All boarders are due back in the Houses by 8pm.

Enrolments

The demand for places at Christ's College continues to climb, and the Headmaster will meet the siblings of present and past students – for 2027 entry – in November–December this year. A link to book these meetings – with options for in-person or online attendance – will be emailed to parents and caregivers in October. If you have not enrolled your son, please contact Admissions Registrar [Charlotte Ensor](#) as soon as possible.

Leaving College?

If your son does not plan to return to College in 2025, please email headmaster@christscollege.com to let us know by the end of Week 1, Term 4. Later notice will likely incur fees for Term 1, 2026.

Events in Term 4

Please go to the [Upcoming Events page](#) on the College website for more details.

Monday 13 October

Quiz Night for Drama Tour to London

Saturday 18 October

Year 11 Semi-formal

Monday 20 October

Sedley Wells Music Competition

Wednesday 22 October

South Canterbury Community Visit

Friday 24 October

Boarding Mothers' Morning Tea

Christ's College Parents' Association Pink Lunch

Wednesday 29 October

Ashburton Community Visit

Tuesday 4–8 November

Junior Production – *The Lightning Thief: Theatre for Young Audiences Edition*, Old Boys' Theatre

Wednesday 5 November

Nelson Community Visit

Thursday 6 November

Blenheim Community Visit

Tuesday 18 November

Wanaka Community Visit

Thursday 4 December

Carols on the Quad

Friday 5 December

Prize-giving

Year 13 Leavers' Chapel Service

Saturday 6 December

Year 13 Leavers' Ball

Tickets on sale now

The Lightning Thief: Theatre for Young Audiences Edition

Don't miss our upcoming joint junior production with Rangī Ruru Girls' School, *The Lightning Thief*, on stage in the Old Boys' Theatre from 4–8 November. This high-energy, one-act, action-packed 75-minute adaptation of the Broadway hit promises to be an unforgettable experience.

When teenager Percy Jackson discovers he's the half-blood son of the Greek God, he and his friends set off on an epic quest to recover Zeus' stolen lightning bolt and prevent a war among the gods. With newly discovered powers he can't control, a destiny he doesn't want, and a bunch of mythical monsters on his tail, Percy must learn what it means to be a hero.

Tickets will go faster than a demigod dodging a Minotaur, so get in quick by [booking at Eventfinda](#).

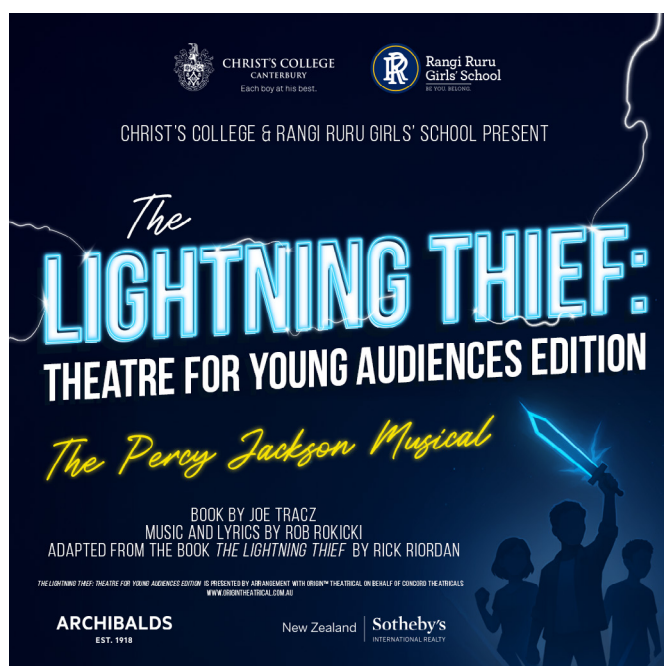
The *Lightning Thief* showcases the incredible creative talents of our students, both on stage and behind the scenes, so please show your support by joining us for this spectacular adventure that is sure to have you on the edge of your seat.

The Pink Lunch

The Christ's College Parents' Association invites you to one of the most anticipated events on the College calendar – The Pink Lunch. Join us on Friday 24 October, from 12–2pm in the Christ's College Dining Hall for a special afternoon. Even if you've never been before, we encourage you to pop along. Everyone is welcome and it's always fun.

Your \$60 ticket includes a delicious lunch, beverages, and a donation to the Breast Cancer Foundation. This much-loved tradition is a chance to meet other College mothers, reconnect with friends, and enjoy time together in wonderful company.

We are thrilled to welcome Dame Sue Bagshaw as guest speaker. A passionate advocate for youth health and wellbeing, Dame Sue's inspiring work and story promise to make this a memorable event. Several fantastic prizes have been donated and will be raffled. The proceeds will go to Dame Sue's chosen charity, the Youth Hub. Don't miss out, [book your tickets today](#).



2026 Prefects

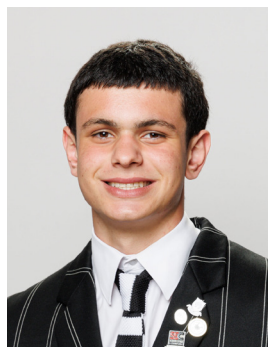
Congratulations to next year's Prefects.



Joshua Shannahan (So)
Head Prefect



Felipe Felitti-Duter (C)
Deputy Head Prefect



Archie Nijjar (F)
Deputy Head Prefect
(Boarding)



Sammy O'Connell
HoH – Condell's



Yul Kwon
HoH – Corfe



Jan-Adriaan Van Wyk
HoH – Flower's



James Melhuish
HoH – Harper



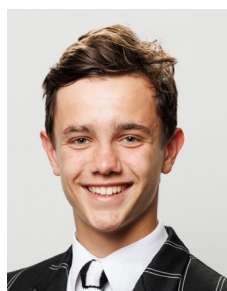
Peter Beasley
HoH – Jacobs



Nisal Pathirana
HoH – Julius



George Simonsohn
HoH – Richards



Charlie de Costobadie
HoH – Rolleston



Gabriel Beavan
HoH – School



Jack Howard
HoH – Somes



Nico Blundell (C)
Head of Academic



Charlie Wood (J)
Head of Arts



Lui Tupuola (R)
Head of Biculturalism



Marcello Ferguson (So)
Head of Chapel Choir



Max Durkin (Cf)
Head of Leadership &
Democracy



Mano Solai (So)
Head of Environment



Yannis Zhang (So)
Head of International/
Round Square



Marco Howe (Cf)
Head of Service



Tawhiri Cate (So)
Head of Sport



Will Crawford (J)
Head of Wellbeing



Michael Rankin (J)
Chapel Prefect



Thomas Visakan (C)
Chapel Prefect