



International Student News

Issue 10, July 2026



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

From the International Student Manager



We have welcomed two new students this term, lifting our international cohort to 17. Year 11 student James Hooper joins us from Sedbergh School in England, while Year 12 student Leonard Fusch is from Germany. Both are members of the School House community and have quickly immersed themselves in College life.

From left: Leonard Fusch and James Hooper



Key dates for Term 3 2026

Monday 20 July – Friday 18 September (9 weeks)

- **Monday 27 July**
NCEA Options Evening for parents and boys of Years 11–12, 6–7.30pm, Assembly Hall
- **Friday 31 July**
Year 10 Dance with St Margaret's, 7–10pm, Chapman Room
- **Thursday 7 August**
Years 11–12 NCEA Options Evening for parents and boys, 7–8.30pm, Assembly Hall
- **Friday 14 August**
Year 9 Dance with St Margaret's, 7–10pm
- **Tuesday 18 August**
REACTION House Plays Parents' Function and Festival – Night One, 5–8.30pm, Chapman Room/Assembly Hall
- **Thursday 20 August**
REACTION House Plays Parents' Function and Festival – Night Two, 5–8.30pm, Chapman Room/Assembly Hall
- **Friday 21 August**
Years 10–11 NCEA parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment (NO CLASSES for Years 9–13), 8.30am–5pm, Online
- **Monday 24–Friday 28 August**
Derived Grade examinations for Years 12–3
- **Monday 24 August**
Diploma Options Evening for parents and boys of Years 9–10, 6–7pm, Chapman Room
- **Wednesday 9 September**
Independent Schools Encore Choral Festival, 7–8.30pm, Assembly Hall
- **Friday 11 September**
Years 12–3 NCEA parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment 2.30–7pm, On-site
- **Saturday 12 September**
College Senior Ball, 7.30–11pm, Te Pae

Term 2

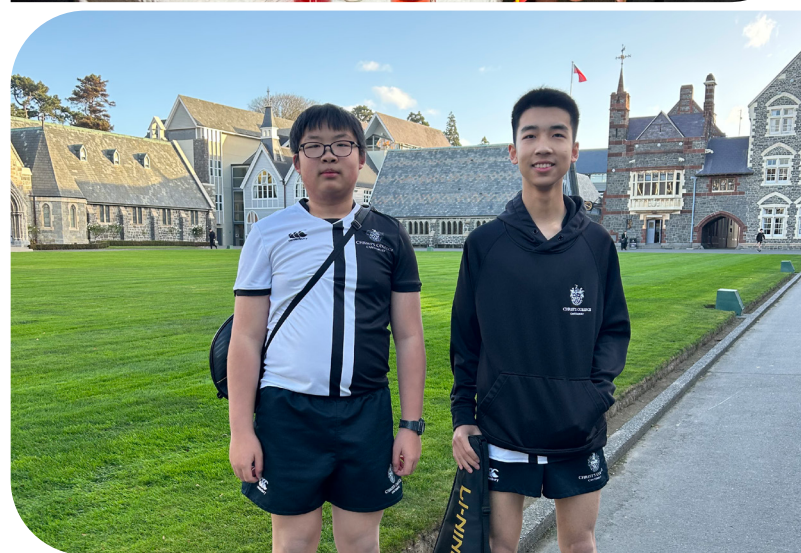
At the end of Term 2, we have farewelled Bene von Wuelfing after a busy year, with Flower's House organising a special party for a popular housemate.

Across the campus

Our international students have been involved in a wide range of activities, both at school and further afield. Our compulsory sport requirement means that students choose both winter and summer options. The range of sports on offer includes badminton, a popular choice for Joseph Zhu and Louis Zhao.

Yoshi Matsunami and Koichiro Miyazaki – as members of the senior rugby squad – travelled to Sydney, Australia during the April school holidays to play several games. Yoshi recently earned his 'cap' for having played seven 1st XV games, and lined up for the premier team in the annual match against Christchurch Boys' High School.

Pictured from top: Bene's farewell, Joseph and Louis, Yoshi and Koichi, CC vs CBHS rugby game (Yoshi pictured centre), Yoshi getting capped.



Across the campus *continued*

Recent arrival Leonard Fusch is already making his mark, joining the pre-season hockey tour to Timaru before starting at College. In official play this term, he has scored several goals for his team, which has also won the Challenge Shield from Timaru Boys' High School.

James Hooper has also been quick to get on the rugby field as an integral member of the Development Black side, currently second in the competition.

Meanwhile, Neh Rajtborirak has helped Christ's College deliver a strong team finish at the Canterbury Secondary Schools Cross-Country event by lining up in the Year 9 three-kilometre race. Neh has also taken on another challenge, representing Richards House – alongside Ray Tsung – in the Esports competition held during STEM Week.

After three weeks staying in Jacobs House for Immerse and Inspire, Year 10 student Will Luo has headed away on camp to Boyle River.

Pictured clockwise from top: Leonard, Leonard (back row, second from right) with the CC 1st XI, James in action, Will Luo off on camp, Neh and Ray with Richards housemate Tommer competing in the Esports.



Across the campus *continued*

In other popular activities, Christ's College regularly marks Pink Shirt Day, inviting boys to wear pink shirts or accessories to promote kindness, celebrate diversity, and take a stand against bullying. Our Richards House and Flower's House boarders have all stepped up to show their support.

Finally, it is always good to see the House celebrations for international students - pictured here are Charlie Syme and friends enjoying birthday cake.

Pictured top to bottom: Richards House and international students, Flower's House and International students, Charlie Syme and Flower's House friends.



House Music

A highlight of the school year is always House Music, which is performed in the Douglas Lilburn Auditorium of the Christchurch Town Hall.

This year all three boarding houses have performed brilliantly, with School House taking 3rd place in the Best House Choir. Teddy Hailey, from Richards House, won Best House Conductor.

I have loved seeing our international students singing their hearts out on stage, and a memorable moment of the night was when Ray Tsung and Zack Jia stepped out from the ranks to do a dance sequence to finish their Richards House item. The crowd responded in delight. Neh Rajtborirak, Richards House, has also featured prominently in the Richards House backing band.



Young leaders

Year 13 leaders Yannis Zhang and Thomas Visakan, pictured left, have been recognised at the 2026 Ethnic Youth Awards, delivered in association with the Koru Korean Learning Community Hub Trust Board and the Ministry of Education's Community Partnerships Team. The awards acknowledge emerging student leaders from diverse ethnic backgrounds across Christchurch secondary schools. Both Yannis and Thomas have been recognised for their outstanding leadership and contributions to College and the wider community while exemplifying our school virtues.



Multi-sport fun day

In Term 2, a multi-sport fun day organised by Rangī Ruru Girls' School included students from Christ's College, St Margaret's College, and St Andrew's College. This annual, action-packed – and very competitive – gathering culminated in a shared dinner of pizza and dessert.



Round Square

Christ's College has reached its 8th year of Round Square membership. This global network has grown to more than 280 schools across 50 countries and six continents.

Round Square schools collaborate on character education and experiential learning, centred on the six IDEALS of Internationalisation, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership, and Service.

At Christ's College, our students can explore the IDEALS through student committees, with the Junior and Senior Round Square committees leading school-wide initiatives and global projects based on the IDEALS.



Boba-making evening

Among the popular events organised by our junior Round Square group is the annual boba-making evening, with our Year 9 boarders joining their St Margaret's College counterparts to learn about the history of boba and how to make the tapioca pearls. The boarders have made pearls, and enjoyed a 'Boba Kahoot!' before creating their own concoctions. Hosted by Hannah Chen from BobaLab, it is a fun and educational event, building on the IDEAL of Internationalisation.

Pictured from top: Multi-sport Fun Day group shots, Junior Round Square committee, boarders at Boba-making event, Hannah Chen & Ray Tsung.



Making international connections

In the April school holidays, I travelled to London to take part in the StudyTravel Alphe Fair. With more than 250 agents, 220 schools, 40 service providers, and eight associations, including New Zealand's SIEBA, the fair provided a structured and high-quality environment for in-person networking and partnership building with mainly European education agents. I was also fortunate to meet the representative from Saint-Denis International School in France, a French language exchange partner of College.

Following the fair, and along with our sister school, St Margaret's College, I travelled around Germany, connecting with existing and potential agents, and meeting families of current and future students. Everywhere we went, there was a great deal of interest in our schools and a New Zealand education, and we hope to build on this positive connection.

A highlight of my time in Germany was a visit to Gymnasium am Moltkeplatz – a hockey exchange partner. I was delighted to catch up with Paul Behrens and Theo Kalda, who both spent time at Christ's College.

Agent event

In Term 2, St Margaret's College and Christ's College hosted our annual agents gathering in the College Boardroom. It is an opportunity to bring together our local agents to deliver an update on the schools. This year, we have focused on health and wellbeing, with counsellors and nurses from both schools explaining how we support our students.

Mothers' Day High Tea

In the absence of their mothers, it was wonderful to see the caregivers of Mario Wei, Zack Jia and Louis Zhao join us for the annual High Tea to celebrate Mothers' Day.

Pictured from top, left to right: Saint Denis, Agent Fair in London, German agent, Moltkeplatz students, annual Agent event, caregivers at the Boarding Mothers' Day High Tea.



Tours

It is always a highlight meeting agents in person, after often having exchanged many emails. We tour the school campus, including a boarding House, and sometimes share lunch with the boys in the Dining Hall.

Also pictured is Mitsuko Miyazaki, Koichiro's mother, who has delighted us by touring the campus in a traditional Japanese kimono.



Counsellors

Christ's College provides a confidential counselling service to support students from a dedicated space, including a 'quiet room', in the Fine Arts building. Students can book an appointment via Schoolbox to connect with experienced counsellors Malcolm Scott and Chelita Fonmoa (pictured left) or simply make the most of the drop-in sessions.

Both counsellors are available on every school day, and the daily drop-in sessions are open to those boys who need to meet at short notice. The 'quiet room' can help students who need some time away from general school life, particularly if they are feeling overwhelmed and want to take a short break, or require some privacy.

Malcolm has been working with secondary school students since 2014 while Chelita has supported youth and adults for the past six years. Both work closely with the Housemasters, who may refer a boy for support, and alongside the Health Centre nurses. Parents can also contact both Malcolm and Chelita directly.

While a boy initially may be reluctant to approach the counsellors, they soon become more relaxed and open to discussing any issues or needs.

If you have any concerns about your son's wellbeing, please first contact his Housemaster or Sarah Davidson. You can also get in touch with the counsellors directly at: malcolm.scott@christscollge.com or chelita.fonmoa@christscollge.com.



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY
Each boy at his best.

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Kakao Talk



WeChat



WhatsApp

