



International Student News

Issue 9, April 2026



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

From the International Student Manager



It is exciting to see our international students return to Christ's College, energised and ready for a new academic year. A special welcome to our new students, Neh Rajtborirak (Thailand), Max Zhao (China), and Tunt Lekvichai (Thailand). All three have already immersed themselves in school life and made new friends.

From left: Tunt Lekvichai, Neh Rajtborirak and his family, and Max Zhao at the Chinese New Year Festival.

Key dates for Term 2 2026

Tuesday 28 April – Friday 3 July (10 weeks)

- **Monday 27 April**
Boarding Houses open 3pm for Term 2 (all boarders due back in House by 8pm)
- **Wednesday 29 April**
ANZAC Day service, 10.20am
Orchestra Extravaganza with St Margaret's College & Rangī Ruru Girls' School, 7–9pm, Assembly Hall
- **Sunday 3 – Monday 4 May**
OBHS Winter Sports Exchange, Dunedin
- **Thursday 7 May**
Years 12–13 NCEA parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment, 2.30–7pm, online
- **Tuesday 12 – Saturday 16 May**
Senior Production – *Les Misérables*, Assembly Hall
- **Sunday 17 May**
Chapel service, 7pm
- **Friday 29 May**
TEACHER ONLY DAY – NO CLASSES (Exeat weekend for all boarders)
- **Saturday 30 May – Monday 1 June**
KINGS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND (NO CLASSES on Monday 1 June)
- **Tuesday 2 June**
Christ's College vs Christchurch Boys' High 1st XV rugby game, 1–3pm, CBHS
- **Wednesday 17 – Saturday 20 June**
100th Quadrangle Rugby Tournament, Whanganui Collegiate
- **Thursday 25 June**
Parents' Association House Music Festival, 6.30–9pm, Christchurch Town Hall
- **Tuesday 30 June**
Year 9 parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment, 2.30–7pm, online
- **Friday 3 July**
Last day of term
Parents' Association Midwinter Drinks, 6–9pm, Dining Hall



Term 1

We started the term with a 'Welcome Pizza Lunch'. It was wonderful to see our older students introduce themselves to our younger boys and latest arrivals as part of our 'big brother, little brother' pastoral care approach. Pictured left our 'Welcome Pizza Lunch'.

Across the campus

In Term 1, it was wonderful to show Year 13 student Ray Tsung's family (pictured left) around the college campus during a visit from Taiwan. It was a great opportunity for his family to see Ray's daily school life, including enjoying lunch in the Dining Hall.

Our international students have been involved in a wide range of activities, both at school and further afield. Rowers Charlie Syme and Bene von Wuelfing have been fortunate to compete at the Canterbury Championships, the South Island Secondary Schools Regatta, and the prestigious Maadi Regatta on Lake Ruataniwha, near Twizel. Charlie has reached three finals and won a top-10 pin in the #2 U18 boat, while Bene's novice eight and four have won gold medals. While Bene's family was avidly following the racing from Germany, getting up in the middle of the night to watch the races, Charlie's father, Kirk, was lakeside to support his son. College rowers Bene von Wuelfing (pictured left) and Charlie Syme (below).



Across the campus *continued*

Meanwhile, Year 13 students Zack Jia and Jordan Li both have stepped into the spotlight, singing at the second annual Cultural Festival hosted by Christ's College. We are very proud of Zack and Jordan following their performances in front of more than 120 students and guests.

Pictured right Zack Jia and Jordan Li.

Vocal performance has also been centre stage at the inaugural Richards House karaoke competition, held in the Old Boys' Theatre. A fun-filled event, the boys have all impressed in the competition.

Boys compete in the Richards House karaoke competition, pictured right.

Athletics Day is a feature of the school calendar, with the boys celebrating the house spirit of the occasion.

Pictured below, from left: Flower's House students Louis, Jordan, and Joseph, and Tunt and Neh with their Richards House mascot.





Across the campus *continued*

Also notable was Max Zhao, Year 9, Somes House, who took home a *Best Supporting Performer* as Snug the Lion in A Midsummer Night's Dream performed as part of the SGNZ Shakespeare Festival.

Chinese New Year

For the third consecutive year, College students have volunteered at the Chinese New Year Festival in Victoria Square. Our boys have dressed up as panda, horse, money god, and frog mascots to interact with families, and help create a welcoming and festive atmosphere. Students have also supported various stalls and vendors, bringing energy and enthusiasm to the celebration.

Chinese New Year Festival volunteers and our choir on stage, pictured left.

Meanwhile, we have gathered with Rangī Ruru Girls' School students to enjoy dinner at a Chinese restaurant to celebrate the Year of the Horse.

Pictured below: A dinner celebration for Chinese New Year.



Round Square events

GeoGuessr

The Junior Round Square committee has organised its first event of 2026, an interhouse GeoGuessr competition, with all 10 Houses vying for honours. Julius (pictured right) has proved too strong, with Condell's second, and School House third.

Cultural Festival

Uniting with Rangī Ruru Girls' School, St Margaret's College, and St Andrew's College, the Senior Round Square committee has organised a vibrant night of entertainment showcasing a range of cultures. Our guest performers have been followed by students, including a festival highlight – the combined Christ's College and St Margaret's College Polyfest group.

Circle of Unity

To mark the 60th anniversary of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, College students have united in a circle around Quad to show the power of standing together, and to celebrate the respect, culture and connection of our school community. The students also performed the school haka (pictured right) and the choir sang a waiata.



Flu vaccination

As we approach winter, Christ's College encourages families to consider arranging a flu vaccination for their son/student. A highly contagious virus, influenza spreads quickly in school communities, particularly when students spend extended periods together in classrooms, playing sports, and sharing spaces. Vaccination is the most effective way to reduce the risk of catching the flu and can also lessen the severity of symptoms if someone does become unwell. It also helps to protect others in the community, including younger children, older adults, and people with underlying health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious illness.

By having the flu vaccine, students can reduce the spread of infection within the school and minimise time away from learning due to illness. If you want your son/student to receive the flu vaccination, it may be timely to do so during the school holidays. The vaccine should be available from 1 April.

Agent visits and overseas trips

This year, I have been fortunate to visit the cities of Taipei and Hong Kong for agent events. It is so enjoyable being able to connect with so many excellent agents.

Pictured right: agent events in Taipei and Hong Kong.

It is also wonderful to show agents around our heritage campus, so that they can see our students in action, and appreciate what Christ's College can offer.

Pictured below from left to right: Country City Study Centre Co, Your Education and Vajiravudh College Bangkok.



Wishing you all a safe and happy Easter.



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY
Each boy at his best.

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