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# Dear parents and caregivers

## I hope you have enjoyed some time with your family over Easter and during the recent holidays.

I will be acting for Garth Wynne in his absence while he is on sabbatical until 29 May. I hope that Garth has a refreshing time away from the rigours of his role and I wish Garth and Annie all the best for their travels.

It was great to experience a relatively normal Term 1 this year, with all its busyness and activities. The only major disruption was, regrettably, to the interhouse athletics competition.

However, it was wonderful to wrap up Term 1 with an outstanding run of results and achievements across many sports, as detailed below.

Term 2 is an important term for the boys in many ways, not least of which will be academic demands and challenges. The boys will need to fit their busy schedule of sport, House, and cultural activities around the core business of their studies and assessments.

#### **Child Protection**

In 2022, the organisation Child Matters conducted a thorough review of child safety practices and policies at Christ's College. Following this review, we have provided training for all our staff and outside coaches on the fundamentals of child protection. The next step

### College photographs now available

All House and individual photos have been given to each Housemaster and distributed to your son at the end of Term 1. Your son should have brought these home, so please keep an eye out.

### Important dates

### Monday 24 April, 8.30am-5pm

Years 12–13 NCEA parent/teacher/student online meetings by appointment (NO CLASSES for Years 9–13).

#### Tuesday 2 May, 2.30-7pm (NEW TIME UPDATE)

Years 10–11 Diploma parent/teacher/student online meetings by appointment.

#### Thursday 8 June, 2.30-7pm (NEW TIME UPDATE)

Year 9 parent/teacher/student online meetings by appointment.

### Key dates for 2023

Please read our <u>Key Dates</u> and <u>Key Boarding</u> <u>Dates</u> to find all the information about College events and activities until the end of the year.

is for all boys, by year group, to receive some essential information about child safety, including their rights, some key points about abuse, how to keep themselves safe, and how to report any concerns they may have. These sessions will take place in Terms 2–3 and will be conducted by Counsellor Kirsty Robinson, Assistant Principal – Boarding and Immerse & Inspire Ben Vink and me, in my capacity as Deputy Principal and Child Protection Coordinator.

#### Social media

Finally, from me, there has been some media coverage recently about the negative impact of social media on teenage wellbeing and mental health. At College, we are aware of the pitfalls of social media, but also well aware of how important online connections are for adolescents; and it is not as though adults can always take the moral high ground in their own conduct around devices ...

We have tried to mitigate 'screen time' by having techfree days in Houses and in the School Library, but also by offering the boys other opportunities for time away from devices. These include interhouse activities, which have been very well supported by boys at lunchtimes in Term 1, with a great atmosphere out on Upper for the backyard cricket competition, and some superb games of volleyball in the gym. Good weather has also lured boys outdoors for games of cricket, touch, and a modified form of American football. Of course, the boys also get a break from screens while in Chapel and an opportunity for some quiet, contemplative time in their very busy lives.

I would like to think that most boys use social media responsibly and that most of them have followed John Parsons' advice, which was offered at the start of the year. However, a few very damaging incidents of late have prompted me to write to all boys with some reminders about how to keep themselves and others safe online.

The advice includes:

- Portray a positive image of yourself on social media
- Show empathy and compassion for others by not sharing any images of others (including staff, and students from other schools), or comments which may embarrass or humiliate
- Stop and think before sharing, and avoid writing things which are hurtful
- Respect the rights of others, especially their right to privacy. With this in mind, never photograph or film staff or students without their consent (no covert filming); and note that the staff are entitled to their privacy so do not request to 'follow' or 'friend' them

• If you have shared an image of yourself, which others then seek to exploit, for example, by blackmail, speak to your parents, or your Housemaster, or the Counsellors straight away. There will be plenty of support for you.

Parents will find some very useful information and resources on this site: <a href="https://netsafe.org.nz/">https://netsafe.org.nz/</a>

### Rob Donaldson Deputy Principal

### Important information

#### **Boarding**

We look forward to welcoming our boarders back to College on Anzac Day, Tuesday 25 April from 3pm. All boys must be in their Houses by 8pm.

#### Start of Term 2

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Wednesday 26 April. There are no classes on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 April. The uniform for the day is blazers with long trousers.

#### 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.

#### **Public holidays**

Please refer to our <u>Term dates</u> for 2023 public hoildays.

#### **Community Visits**

Auckland - Tuesday 2 May, 6pm. Click here to book.

Martinborough – Tuesday 9 May, 6pm. Click here to book.

Wellington – Wednesday 10 May, 6pm. Click here to book.

Singapore – Saturday 20 May, 4pm. Click here to book.

Akaroa – Wednesday 2 August, 6pm. Click here to book.

Hawke's Bay – Tuesday 8 August, 6pm. <u>Click here to book</u>.

### Summer Tournament wrap-up

In sailing, the Christ's College crew has won the Top of the South Island Regatta in Picton for the first time in school history. The boys have remained unbeaten throughout their 11 races. The title-winning team of Years 9–13 boys features Will Leech (skipper), Oliver March, Nico Blundell (skipper), George Gorman, Sam Nicholl (skipper), Alan Viles, Will Owen, and Harry Lee.

The College Senior A tennis squad has come very close to claiming its first national title. In the last doubles match of the tournament, which has doubled as a tournament decider, the boys have narrowly lost 10–6 in the 3rd set tiebreak. A special mention to Liam Barrett, who has played through injury to fight so hard.

The Senior A Volleyball team has travelled to Palmerston North to compete in the national tournament. Playing twice a day and often finishing late at night, the team has displayed tenacity in coming away with six wins and three losses to claim third in division three. A commendable effort and everyone involved can be proud.

Henry and Louis Hiatt have impressed in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Triathlon in Wanaka. More than 300 athletes from 75 schools across the country have competed in the picture-postcard setting in cool conditions with snow on the hills and a delayed start because of frost. In the U16 individual race, Henry has come home well inside the top half of the field with a strong bike and run to finish. After an unfortunate DNF in the individual race, Louis has collected a national silver medal in the Super Sprint U14 team tag race, combining with three athletes from Cashmere High School.

The highlights from mountain biking include Oscar Talbot powering up to win his age group for the cross-country event and the performance of George Rookes, who has had a photo finish for 4th.

### Whole-school Wellbeing Conference – Cultivating Connections through Community

Hosted by Christ's College, the Whole-school Wellbeing Conference – Cultivating Connections through Community has been a big success.

With 83 representatives from more than 39 institutions – including schools from north to south and the Ministry of Education – gathering over two days, it has been an opportunity to learn and grow within the wellbeing space.

Thank you to College Director of Wellbeing Education Caroline Black and Events Manager Gill Blacker for ensuring the success of this excellent event.

### SI Secondary Schools' (SISS) Track and Field Championships

Christ's College athletes have won 10 titles at the South Island Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships in Invercargill.

AJ Madondo and Jake Boyd have led the title race, winning the U19 triple jump (13.57m) and U19 200m (21.93), and the U14 discus (44.19m) and U14 javelin (35.95m) events, respectively. AJ has also finished 2nd in the U19 100m (11.19).

Six other boys have also powered into the individual winner's circle, including Lui Tupuola – U15 hammer (36.79m); Josh Ratulomai – U19 hammer (43.75m); George Matthews – U16 pole vault (2.75m); Otto Church – U14 3000m (10:12.81); Felix Bowden – U16 shot put (11.56m); and Harrison Laing – U16 400m (53.17).

### Maadi Regatta

Congratulations to the boys and coaches – and thank you to all the parents and <u>sponsors</u> – following an action-packed Maadi Regatta at Lake Karapiro. Our boys have brought home medals, including gold in the U15 coxed octuple, silver for the U18 coxless pair, and bronze in the U16 coxed eight race. Meanwhile, our U18 coxed eight has finished 4th after setting the early pace in a record-setting race.

### Roadworks outside Christ's College

At the start of Term 2, there will be some roadworks disruption outside Christ's College because of the construction of a two-way cycle lane along Rolleston Avenue. The new cycle lane is expected to make travel smoother and safer. During the roadworks, Rolleston Avenue will be one way between Kilmore Street and Cashel Street, with the traffic flowing south from the Carlton Corner end of Rolleston Avenue, as shown here.

### The one-way system will be in place until 10 May.

During this time, you cannot approach College directly from Gloucester Street or the southern end of Rolleston Avenue.

When the roadworks are completed, there will be no parking on the College side of Rolleston Avenue (as the new cycle lanes will be in place there). Further updates regarding dropping off or picking up your son will be provided once the roadworks are finished.

Longer-term, bus parking and P3 zones are due to be introduced in Gloucester Street. We will share any updates about work in the street.

### Staff updates

In staff news, we farewell some familiar faces and welcome several new members.

### **Ange Bosworth**

Uniform Shop staff

We bid a fond farewell to Uniform Shop staff member Ange Bosworth, who is retiring after 12 years. Ange, a mother to three College Old Boys, describes her time at College as "a great deal of fun, packed with plenty of humour". Ange has appreciated the opportunity to get to know so many College families and the many boys as they move from Years 9–13.

### **Aidan Dempsey**

College painter

We wish College painter Aidan Dempsey all the best as he returns home to Ireland after five years at College, working in the Maintenance Department.

### Taryn Randall and Emily Buckley

Biology teacher

Taryn Randall, a current College reliever, has accepted the role of fixed-term Biology teacher while Emily Buckley is on parental leave until late Term 4.

#### Ian Farell

Physics technician

Ian Farrell joins College at the start of Term 2 as our physics technician. Ian brings his significant experience in advanced laboratories and scientific facilities to the role.

### Keri Duggan

Domestic staff

Following Yvonne Pitcher's retirement, Keri Duggan has moved from School House to Richards House to take up the domestic role.

### Meet our new Uniform Shop Manager, Craig Moffatt



A highly skilled retail manager with more than 30 years of experience, Craig Moffatt will head our College Uniform Shop from Term 2. After more than 20 years with Hallenstein Brothers, Craig brings a wealth of talent to the role, having held the position of

Hallenstein Brothers regional manager and overseeing the development of a successful retail environment while leading various customer service initiatives. Craig is looking forward to meeting many members of our College community. In tandem with Craig's appointment, we are also updating our Uniform Shop hours to better meet the needs of our school community.

- Monday 24 April–Friday 5 May: Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays 10am–4pm, Tuesdays 10.30am–4pm, and Wednesdays 10am–3pm
- Monday 8 May-Wednesday 31 May: Mondays and Thursdays 10am-4pm, Tuesdays 10.30am-4pm, and Wednesdays 10am-3pm
- Thursday 1 June Friday 30 June: Mondays 10am 4pm, Tuesdays 10.30am 4pm, and Wednesdays 10am 3pm.

### Important information continued...

## Tertiary education information evening for Year 12 families

Monday 1 May, 6–7.30pm, Chapman Room. Click here to book.

## Parent Education Evening with Dr Nick Penney – Mindfulness – The Art of Living in the Moment

Wednesday 3 May, 7pm, Chapman Room. Click here to book.

#### Peter Pan - Senior Production

Tuesday 9 May–Saturday 13 May, Christ's College Assembly Hall. <u>Click here to book</u>.

## Year 11 Mother and Son Breakfast – with guest speaker Old Boy Angus Mossman

Saturday 20 May, 8–9.30am, Christ's College Dining Hall. <u>Click here to book</u>.

## Scholarships and study in the United States – a virtual presentation by Angus McKenzie

Thursday 25 May, 5–6pm, Online only. Click here to book.

## A night at the races – fundraiser for the football tour to the US and Canada

Saturday 27 May, 7.30pm, Christ's College Assembly Hall. <u>Click here to book</u>.