

# THE CANTERBURY WEEKLY



WEEK 4, TERM 1, FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2026



Resp



# DID YOU KNOW? LUNAR NEW YEAR

At Canterbury, we celebrate the Lunar New Year as part of our commitment to community, culture, and connection. Just like families around the world, we embrace traditions that honour the past, strengthen bonds, and inspire hope for the future.

Lunar New Year begins on the first new moon between late January and mid-February.



Lunar New Year lasts 15 days. Families reunite, honour ancestors and welcome good fortune.

The 12 zodiac animals rotate in a cycle. They are thought to influence personality and luck.

Families clean and decorate their homes. Sweeping away bad luck, making room for new blessings.



Red can be seen everywhere, it symbolises luck, happiness, prosperity, and protection.

“Shou Sui”, the tradition of staying up past midnight, wishes parents and elders a long life.

The Lantern Festival ends the celebration. It focuses on letting go and welcoming new opportunities.



Fireworks, lion and dragon dances help scare away bad luck and bring joy, strength and prosperity.



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
**MEGAN KING**

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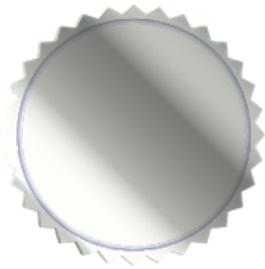
From my perspective, one of the most exciting areas of renewal across Canterbury College in 2026 is the refresh of our **Colours Points framework**. While the Colours System has long been part of our story, the thoughtful review undertaken over recent years, and now the updated points structure, places an even stronger spotlight on celebrating the many ways our students contribute to the life of the College.

Colours Points have always recognised participation and achievement, but this refresh brings a clearer purpose. It aligns how we acknowledge student contributions with the kind of graduates we aspire to develop: young people who are not only successful learners, but truly world ready.

At the heart of the updated framework are our Four Dimensions, which reflect the breadth of a Canterbury education. These dimensions recognise that growth happens in many ways, not just academically, but through sport and activities, service, leadership, character development, and active engagement in community life.

In a rapidly changing world, our young people need more than strong academic results. They need the confidence to collaborate, the courage to lead, the empathy to serve, and the adaptability to thrive in unfamiliar environments. The refreshed Colours Points framework helps make these values visible, tangible, and celebrated.

Importantly, student voice has played a key role in shaping this work, ensuring the framework reflects what genuinely motivates and inspires our students and what helps them flourish. Over the coming weeks, staff will also be working alongside students to review their individual points tallies on MyCC, helping them understand their progress and ensuring they are maximising every opportunity available to them.



# COLOURS SYSTEM

## JUNIOR SCHOOL BADGE

Points accrued between Years 3–6

**Red = 15 points**

Silver = 30 points | Across 2 dimensions minimum

**Gold = 45 points | Across 3 dimensions minimum**

## SENIOR SCHOOL BLAZER COLOURS

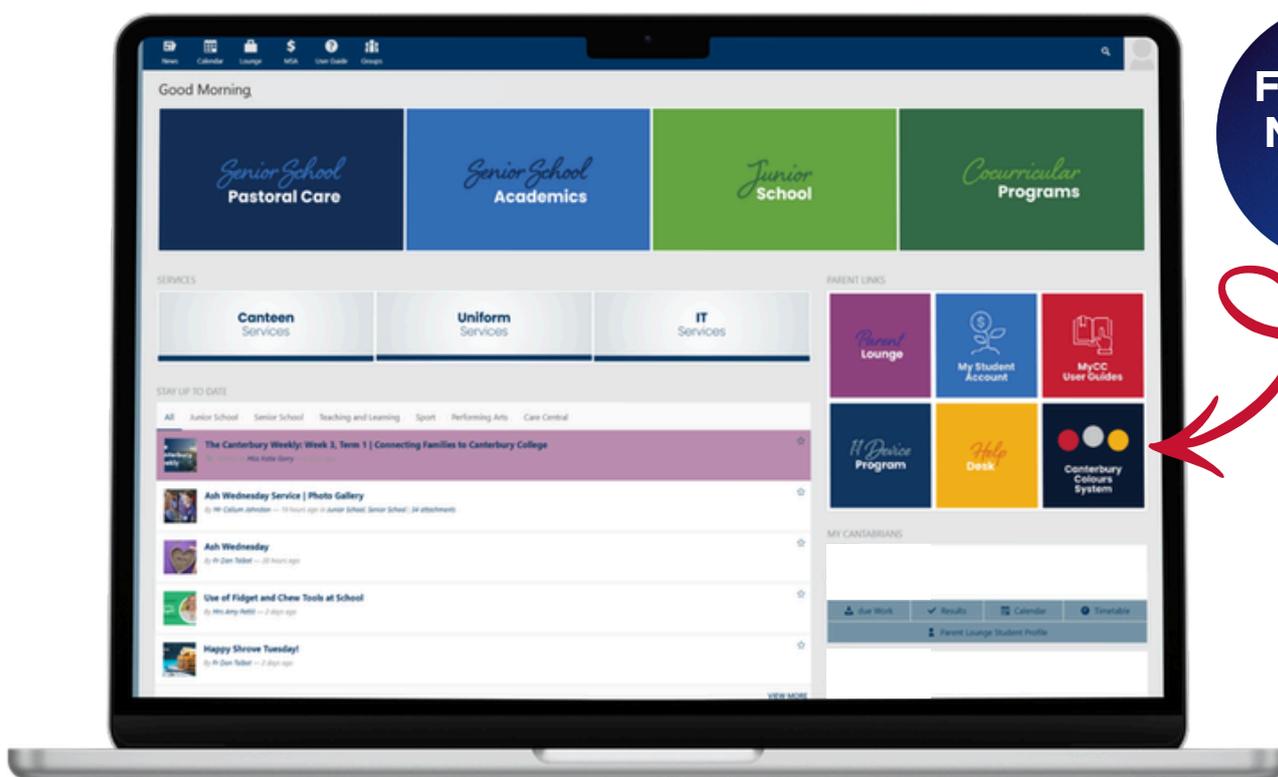
Points accrued between Years 7–12

*NB: Points reset to zero at the beginning of Year 7.*

**Red = 20 points**

Silver = 40 points | Across 2 dimensions minimum

**Gold = 60 points | Across 3 dimensions minimum**



FIND OUT  
MORE IN  
MYCC



## **ASH WEDNESDAY: THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent - a 40-day season of reflection, prayer, fasting, and renewal. Also known as the Day of Ashes, we receive the sign of the cross on our foreheads, reminding us that we belong to Christ and are called to live with humility and faith.

For some, Lent is about giving something up. For others, it's about taking something on - deeper prayer, daily Scripture, or acts of service. Whatever our focus, we are reminded that our faith is lived not for recognition, but for God.

***“We practice our faith for God and not for ourselves.”***

Lent invites us on a journey - one that leads to the foot of the cross on Good Friday and ultimately to the joy of the Resurrection. Before we can fully celebrate new life, we must first walk through reflection, repentance and surrender.

The ashes we receive symbolise both our humanity and our hope. They remind us that we are dust, and to dust we shall return - but also that through Christ's death and resurrection, we are offered eternal life.

***“In Christ's death, may we find our life.”***

As we begin this sacred season, may it be a time of humility, renewal and rediscovery of the deep, personal love God has for each of us.



**“A DAY TO REFLECT,  
A SEASON TO GROW,  
A COMMUNITY TO  
JOURNEY  
TOGETHER.”**





HEAD OF FACULTY - CHARACTER AND RESILIENCE EDUCATION

**ARNIE MARRAYIA**

## **YEAR 10 OURDOOR EDUCATION: EMU GULLY ADVENTURE EDUCATION GROUP**

Last week, our Year 10 students undertook their 2026 Outdoor Education experience, stepping into challenges inspired by real Australian wartime conflicts.

Our students developed many skills, but what stood out most was the growth seen in moments of pressure, teamwork, and reflection.

At the heart of the experience is **challenge by choice** - encouraging students to step beyond their comfort zone while maintaining ownership over their decisions.

The **fun** keeps them engaged. The **challenge** stretches them. The **reflection** stays with them.

And long after the mud is washed off and the bags are unpacked, the growth and lifelong memories remain.

*A heartfelt thank you to  
**Mrs Hamilton, Ms Schluter,  
Mr McBride, Mr Paul,  
Mr Grulovic and Mrs Westphal**  
for supporting our students  
throughout the experience.*

### **WHY CANTERBURY VALUES OUTDOOR EDUCATION**



**BUILDS  
LEADERSHIP  
SKILLS**



**STRENGTHENS  
TEAMWORK**



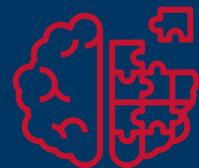
**BUILDS COURAGE  
IN UNFAMILIAR  
SITUATIONS**



**DEVELOPES  
RESILIENCE  
UNDER PRESSURE**



**IMPROVES  
COMMUNICATION**



**ENCOURAGES  
INITIATIVE**



**FOSTERS  
CREATIVITY &  
TEAM SPIRIT**



**STRENGTHENS  
PROBLEM  
SOLVING SKILLS**



My favourite activity was definitely doing the Kokoda Track. It was great working together as a team and just all having fun. I stepped out of my comfort zone when we did the **bridge activity**, the one where 2 people had to go over it at the same time. Everyone was very **encouraging** the whole time especially when other people needed some support. I learned that everyone can show **leadership** even if they aren't a leader it's all about working together.

Isabella H, Year 10



Grade 10 Outdoor Education helped to shape us into a more **united cohort**, with teamwork and character building being key focuses of the experience. My favourite activity, the **Kokoda Trail**, was hard work, but as a team, we worked hard to push through the mud and tumbles to ultimately come out the other side. In hindsight, whilst Outdoor Education was quite challenging and often demanding, we grew into **stronger** and much more **capable** people.

James W, Year 10



My favourite activity was pulling a person on a stretcher through the mud. It was a great activity as it really got my group to learn how to **work as a team** and build stronger connections, to achieve our goal. One thing I have taken from this experience is to **never leave a friend behind**. Hearing stories from the different conflicts throughout history got me thinking how **brave** the soldiers were and were always looking out for one another

Lyla R, Year 10

HEAD OF AI AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION  
ESPORTS COORDINATOR

**JAMES JENKINS**



## CANTERBURY ESPORTS LEVELS UP

Canterbury Esports has taken another positive step forward with the introduction of Valor Esports as part of our weekly training sessions.

Our Esports program has always focused on more than just gameplay. Across titles such as Rocket League, Mario Kart and Marvel Rivals, students develop teamwork, resilience, communication, focus and sportsmanship. The addition of Valor strengthens this philosophy by providing a structured pathway for skill development before students move into competitive play.

Valor Esports is an online training platform designed specifically for school programs. It offers short, targeted activities that build core skills such as decision-making, game awareness, reaction time and consistency. At Canterbury, students complete these activities at the beginning of each session, using them as a warm-up and intentional skills focus before transitioning into team practice.

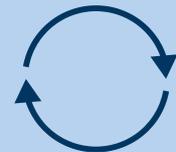
This approach mirrors traditional sport, where drills and preparation are essential for long-term improvement. Rather than relying solely on match results, students are developing habits around preparation, reflection and deliberate practice.

As our program continues to grow, this consistent training framework ensures students are not just competing - they are learning, improving and building the mindset needed for positive, sustainable success in Esports.

### ROCKET LEAGUE DRILLS



**KICK OFF  
STRATEGIES  
IN 2V2**



**KUXIR  
TWIST AND  
TORNADO  
SPIN**



**FLICKS 1V1  
PRACTICE**



**AND MORE!**



## 2026 HOUSE CHOIR RAMSEY GO BACK TO BACK

This week the 2026 House Choir Competition came alive with music and excitement! After weeks of rehearsals, each House had their opportunity to hit the stage and show off their musical talents. It was wonderful to see the energy in the CEC, everyone was cheering, clapping, and singing along!

As Performing Arts Captain, leading House Choir was such a fun experience. I got to help my House learn the lyrics, rehearse together, and just enjoy singing as a team.

What I loved most was when we all came together and sung as one. I am proud of each and every student for giving their best and showing encouragement towards each other! It was really amazing to see my peers overcome their nerves and get into the music and having a laugh while performing.

While Ramsey House will be celebrated, the real highlight was seeing everyone join in and support each other. A big congratulations to all the students in Years 5 to 12, you have made 2026 a House Choir to remember!



FROM THE HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL  
**NICK STANSBIE**



## SETTING THE TONE FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL YEAR AHEAD

The beginning of the school year has brought with it a remarkable sense of energy, purpose, and unity from our Year 12 cohort. From day one, they have embraced their leadership roles with maturity and enthusiasm, setting a tone that is already shaping 2026 as a memorable and uplifting year for our Senior School community.

Their leadership has been particularly evident in the leadup to this week's House Choir competition. The way our Seniors have guided, encouraged and rallied students from all year levels has been outstanding. Their commitment to bringing people together through creativity and collaboration exemplifies their chosen theme for the year:

***Together We Thrive.*** It is clear they understand that leadership is not about standing apart, but standing alongside others.

This spirit of togetherness was also beautifully showcased at our new Senior Jersey Presentation Night. This student led initiative created a meaningful moment for the cohort to gather, reflect, and celebrate as they wore their Senior Jerseys for the very first time.

The pride, connection, and joy in the room spoke volumes about who they are and the legacy they hope to leave.

If this beginning is anything to go by, 2026 will be a year of exceptional leadership, unity and growth.





## BRIDGE BUILDER PROGRAM

In 2026 our students right across the Junior School have begun their year learning all about managing conflict. Through the Bridge Builder program, students have learnt about Calming down and the importance of ensuring we have a calm mind and a calm body when we are interacting with each other on the playground.

Students in our lower years learned about taking deep controlled breaths, standing bravely and taking a cool drink to help reset our feelings.

In the upper years, students have been learning about the Physiological changes that occur in our body and minds when we are faced with conflict or challenging situations.

Our Bridge Builder Program runs across the entire Junior School to ensure that we equip our young people with the skills to handle tricky situations and demonstrate resilience on a daily basis.

As part of the program, we have a number of our Year 6 students who completed 2 days of formal training to be qualified as Bridge Builder Mediators. They are very supportive of our younger students and spend their break time supporting the younger students to demonstrate resilience and solve conflicts in a supported way.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO HELP:

- All ELC – year 2 parents have access to the Bridge Builder Program.

*(if you need more information you can discuss this with your class teacher)*

- All parents can encourage their children to demonstrate resilience and solve problems using their Bridge Builder strategies.
- If your child comes home and talks about a conflict – you can ask them which strategies or techniques did they use to help resolve their conflict.





## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Brooke is Canterbury's Athletics Coordinator, overseeing the **JTAS, TAS and Club Athletics programs** while supporting student athletes in both Junior School & Senior School. Passionate about athlete development, she works closely with students and coaches to build strong pathways and high-performance opportunities across the College.

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### Tell us about your role at Canterbury. What does a typical day look like for you?

My mornings and afternoons are spent on the track coaching alongside our team and supporting high performance athletes. During the day, I focus on program planning, event coordination, reviewing training footage, and designing individual athlete programs.

### What do you enjoy most about being part of the Canterbury community?

I love our athletics community, where students work hard and genuinely support one another. Seeing students arrive at 6:45am, motivated by their love of running and the positive start it gives their day, makes me proud to be part of it.

### Looking ahead, what excites you most about Canterbury's future?

Canterbury continues to offer meaningful opportunities for growth

and development across both students and staff. Next year, I hope to step into a teaching role and continue inspiring students to believe in their potential, both on the track and in the classroom.

## BEHIND THE BADGE

**Coffee or tea?**  
Coffee

**Early bird or night owl?**  
Early bird

**Go-to weekend activity?**  
K'gari- Fraser Island

**Hidden talent or fun fact about you?**  
I have 32 owl statues around my house.

**Favourite Canterbury event or tradition?**  
Athletics Interhouse Carnivals

**Favourite way to unwind after a busy day?**  
Listen to country music while floating in my pool.

**If you weren't working in education, what would you be doing?**  
Animal Career

**Favourite food or go-to comfort meal?**  
Lamb Cutlets

**Three words students would use to describe you?**  
Friendly, kind, and chatty



# **T**AIPANS **NEW** **A**SPIRING **A**THLETES **P**ROGRAM

***TAKING SPORTING CULTURE  
TO THE NEXT LEVEL***

**OPEN TO ALL SPORTS | YEARS 9-12**

**HIGH-PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS**

**TRAINING, WELLBEING & RECOVERY**

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT  
& WORKSHOPS WITH INDUSTRY PROS**

Details on the selection criteria & application process found [HERE](#)  
Nathan Burgess (n.burgess@canterbury.qld.edu.au)



Canterbury

# UNITED NATIONS DAY

MONDAY 30 MARCH

**PURCHASE YOUR FREE  
TICKET [HERE](#)**



# COMING UP NEXT...

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**3-6 Think U Know IncurSION:** Monday 23 February

**Year 7 Outdoor Education:** Tuesday 24 - Thursday 26 February

**Year 10 Immunisations:** Wednesday 25 February

**Pacific District Swimming Carnival:** Thursday 26 February

**ELC Family Picnic:** Friday 27 February





## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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New Parent Orbit App - [Download Here](#)

2026 Canterbury Cup System - [View Now](#)

2026 Canterbury Colours System - [View Now](#)

2026 Annual St John's Cathedral City Service - [View Now](#)

Year 6 Bridge Builders Program: Student Mediators Training - [View Now](#)

Year 9 students shine at the QUT STEM Challenge - [View Now](#)

Family House Chapel - [MyCC News](#)

2026 Assembly: Term 1 Week 2 - [Photo Gallery](#)

Greater Brisbane's Highest 90+ ATAR and Highest Median ATAR in 2025 -  
[Website News](#) & [World Ready Report](#)



**Canterbury**