

THE CANTERBURY WEEKLY



WEEK 1, TERM 2, FRIDAY 24 APRIL 2026



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DAN WALKER

Who we are as a school is revealed not in our vision statements, but in the standards we choose to hold when it would be easier not to.

A High-Expectation Culture by Design

As we begin a new term, I want to reaffirm something fundamental about Canterbury College. We are, by design, a high-energy, high-engagement, high-expectations school. This is what makes us different from many schools, and it is why so many families deliberately choose Canterbury.

Our standards are not about control or compliance. They exist because culture matters, and culture shapes outcomes. The way students present themselves, the way they speak to others, the way they approach their learning, and the way they participate in the life of the College all contribute to who they become.

Why Standards Matter

This is why uniform is worn as designed, every day, including very high expectations around blazers, makeup, hair styling and jewellery. It is why academic standards are explicit and sustained effort is expected from every student. It is why students are expected to engage beyond the classroom through sport, the arts, service and leadership.

These are not isolated rules. Together, they create calm, purposeful and joyful learning environments where teachers can teach and students can flourish. They support our belief in all-roundedness through the Four Dimensions and our aspiration to be a leading Queensland academic, sporting and performing arts school.

Holding the Line Together

I understand there are times when our expectations may feel challenging for families, particularly when they require difficult conversations or inconvenient decisions.

Being asked to collect a child due to uniform or behaviour issues can be frustrating. Having a request for an exception declined can feel disappointing. However, these moments are not about being punitive.

They are about protecting the culture that allows the whole community to thrive. We provide strong learning and wellbeing support, but support does not replace accountability. When standards are applied consistently, students feel safe, expectations are clear, and learning remains the priority.

Thank you for partnering with us, especially when expectations are demanding. When we hold our ground together, Canterbury remains a place of purpose, energy, and joy.



ANZAC Day March Reminder

A reminder that Canterbury students and staff will be marching in the Beenleigh ANZAC Day March this Saturday. This is an important opportunity for our community to stand together in solidarity, respect, and remembrance.

Participation helps build empathy, character, and an understanding of service beyond self. I encourage families to support those taking part and to reflect on the significance of this occasion.

The Term Ahead

Looking ahead to Term 2, there is an extraordinary amount of learning, participation and opportunity awaiting our students. Across rugby, netball, tennis, and hockey, through music, dance, and the College musical, and into areas such as the entrepreneurship competition and thought sports, our students will be fully immersed in the life of the College.

This is Canterbury in full flight. High energy, high engagement, and high expectations, lived out every day. I look forward to seeing our students challenge themselves, support one another, and make the most of all that Term 2 has to offer.



THE CHANGING NATURE OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION

Since the COVID pandemic, the teaching profession has experienced a noticeable shift across the country. What was once a very stable workforce has become more fluid and schools everywhere are adapting to new realities in recruitment and staffing.

Traditionally, the recruitment of teachers followed a predictable cycle with most positions for the following year advertised and filled towards the end of the school year. This is no longer the case.

Recruitment now occurs throughout the year, which reflects changes in workforce mobility, career flexibility and personal circumstances. Teachers are making decisions at different times and schools must respond with greater agility.

This shift is not unique to any one region or education sector. Many excellent schools across the country are currently experiencing difficulties filling roles, despite having strong reputations and supportive communities. The demand for qualified, high-quality educators remains high.

At Canterbury, we are not immune to these national trends.

However, we are very fortunate to be recognised as an employer of choice.

We continue to attract strong applicants who share our values and commitment to excellence in education. This is a reflection of our positive culture, high professional standards, and supportive environment for both staff and students.

It is important to acknowledge that the landscape has changed. The stability that once characterised the teaching profession is evolving and flexibility is now essential. We remain committed to thoughtful and strategic recruitment to ensure any staffing decisions are made with care and foresight. Our priority, as always, is our students. Every decision we make is guided by what will best support their learning, wellbeing and continuity of care.

We are confident that, even in a changing environment, our community's shared commitment to education will continue to ensure positive outcomes for your child.

Thank you for your ongoing trust and support as we navigate these changing times together.



ANZAC SERVICE REFLECTION

ANZAC Day provides an important opportunity for our community to pause, reflect, and honour the service and sacrifice of those who have served and those who continue to serve our nation.

Today, our College community came together for a meaningful ANZAC Day Commemorative Service, led by Father Dan and our Junior and School Captains. The Canterbury Honour Roll, featured in the service, continues to provide a strong and personal connection to family members who are currently serving or have previously served.

We were proud to include a strong cadet presence and acknowledge the Canterbury students in the Colour Party from the 11 Army Cadet Unit, led by Company Sergeant Major Cooper McIntyre. The flag party was led by Cadet Under Officer Henry Flaxman, supported by Cadet Lance Corporals Rylan Mead and Jack Wellington, with rearguard provided by Cadet Lance Corporal Sachiel Paniagua, Cadet Emily Noy, and Cadet Leo Christie.

We extend our thanks to the Secretary of the Beenleigh RSL and Navy Veteran, Ms Amy McGregor, whose address added depth and significance to our remembrance.

Wreaths were laid by Ms McGregor and Mr Walker, along with Air Force Cadets and Canterbury students including Cadet Malleah DiPasquale, accompanied by fellow Cadets Sai Aungthan, Kelvin Jung, and Markus Wylie, as well as students representing their Houses and year levels.

A highlight of the service was the annual Legacy video created by our Year 10 cohort, honouring the life and ANZAC legacy of Sister Rachael Pratt. We also acknowledge and commend Year 10 student William Laredo for his moving performance of the Last Post and the Rouse.

Tomorrow will see strong student representation across the wider community, including the Beenleigh RSL March and Service, the Beenleigh Dawn Service, and the Palm Lakes Resort Community Service.

View Sister Rachael Pratt's tribute video by the Year 10 Cohort [here](#).





DIRECTOR OF SPORT AND ACTIVITIES
ARNIE MARRAIYA

STRONG STRIDES AND THE SEASON AHEAD

Interhouse Cross Country Wrap Up

The Senior School Interhouse Cross Country took place in perfect weather. Students took great pride in representing their house both in the competitive and participation races, as well as their supporter costume choice.








From the competitive races, the Pacific District and TAS Cross Country Squads will be chosen and communicated to students and their families next week. The Pacific District Cross Country Championships will be held on Wednesday 13 May while the TAS Cross Country Championships will be held on Tuesday 19 May at John Paul College.

Congratulations are extended to our 2026 Age Champions.

At our next assembly, our King and Queen of the Track and winning House Cross Country Champion will be announced.

TAS Term 2 Sport

Next Saturday, Term 2 TAS Sport kicks off with over 28 teams - it is sure to be an exciting season! Round 1 sees Canterbury playing host to St John's Anglican School. We also have the first of three Parent Supporters Barbecues for the term. If you are able to lend a hand, even for a short time, we would greatly appreciate your support. Please click on the link below to volunteer - every bit of help goes a long way in supporting our students and school community.

ROUND	TERM	HOME/AWAY
1	St. John's Anglican College	
2	John Paul College	
3	St. Columban's College (Bus option will also be provided for students)	
4	Ormiston College	
5	St. Paul's School	
6	Cannon Hill Anglican College	
7	West Moreton Anglican College	



SUPPORTERS BARBEQUE

BE A PART OF THE ACTION AT OUR
TERM 2 HOME GAMES

SAT
2
MAY

SAT
9
MAY





































SAT
6
JUN

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS.
STRENGTHEN OUR CANTERBURY COMMUNITY.
YOUR TIME MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

To assist, simply follow this link:
[Canterbury College Supporters BBQ - Term 2](#)

SENIOR SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

AGE GROUP WINNERS

	GIRLS		BOYS	
12 YEARS		AMELIA LOWE		LUCA BESNARD
		GRACE BARBOSA		CONNOR DAFT
		ALLIRAH MCCARTHY		KAI TUDOR
13 YEARS		AMELIA WEBB		PATRICK MARR
		ASHER SMITH		RILEY JORDAN
		SOPHIA BURTON		MIHALI PAVLOU
14 YEARS		AVA BJERRING		JAKUB MICHALAK
		ZAHLIA THOMAS		BENJAMIN CRANE
		LILY PREWETT		OAKLEIGH MEIER
15 YEARS		MELITA DODD		FINN WATT
		EMMA BLACKMAN		ARCHIE HAMILTON
		KYLA DIESING		CODA LAHRS
16 YEARS		ELOISE MCKEAN		BILLY COSTELLO
		MATILDA LANGLEY		CALLUM WHITE
		RUBIE NEWMAN		LUCA DYER
OPEN AGE		AMELIA NEUMEISTER		LEBRON TUSITALA
		TAHLIA ANDERSON		TANERAU O'RILEY
		PIPPA SHARP		TEX HAMILTON



**ENDURANCE,
DETERMINATION,
AND TEAM SPIRIT**



LIGHTS, MUSIC, ACTION: A BIG TERM AHEAD FOR PERFORMING ARTS!

Welcome to Term 2 in Performing Arts!

After a well-earned break, our studios and rehearsal rooms are buzzing again. Dance ensembles and classes are back on, and music ensembles are rehearsing, getting ready for the upcoming eisteddfod season.

A highlight of this term will be our major production, Disney's High School Musical JR, coming to the Logan Entertainment Centre next month, Saturday 16 May.

Senior School music, dance and drama students are collaborating to bring this high-energy show to life for our community. Rehearsals are going strong as they enter the final few weeks of preparation. Tickets are going on sale very soon... keep an eye out for the announcement!

This term, we are also proud to showcase our Junior School musicians who will feature in the annual Winter Music Festival. And our Rock School will venture off campus for the first time, performing Friday Night Rocks at the Distillery Road Markets. It promises to be a fantastic evening of live music, great food and a vibrant atmosphere.

Thank you for supporting Performing Arts.

We look forward to seeing you in the audiences throughout Term 2!



Canterbury

SENIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF

Disney

**HIGH
SCHOOL
MUSICAL**



©Disney

Saturday 16 May 2026

Two Shows: Matinee 2pm - 3:15pm;
Evening 6pm - 7:15pm



**LOGAN
ENTERTAINMENT
CENTRE**



GET TICKETS [HERE](#)



HOW OUR STUDENTS SHOULD USE AI: AS A STUDY TOOL, NOT A SHORTCUT

Students in Years 8 to 12 have access to Microsoft Copilot through Canterbury College. This is not the public version, it is enterprise-protected, meaning conversations are private, secure, and never used to train any AI model. It is designed specifically for schools.

Used well, Copilot works like a patient, always-available tutor. The key is how students use it.

There is a significant difference between a student who asks Copilot to write their homework and one who uses it to understand the content. The first gets something submitted. The second actually learns.

The most effective approach is to use Copilot to interrogate your own thinking, not to replace it. Prompts like these produce far better results than simply asking for an answer:

“Here’s my explanation, what’s wrong with my reasoning?”

“I understand X, but I’m stuck on why Y happens. Can you explain just that part?”

“Quiz me on this topic and tell me what I got wrong.”

These kinds of conversations build genuine understanding and are excellent preparation for exams. Copilot is a powerful tool when used well.

When students use it to ask questions, test their thinking, and fill gaps in their understanding, it becomes one of the most effective study tools available. The technology is already there, it is the habit of using it well that makes the difference.

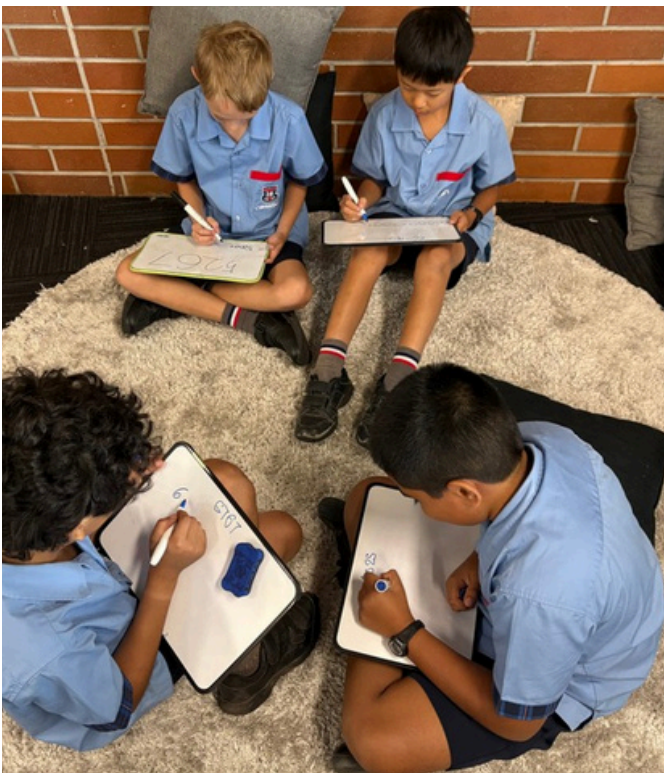


GROWING CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDENCE IN YEAR 4

In Year 4, students are being encouraged to take more responsibility for their learning.

This looks like planning how to approach tasks, sticking with challenges, and using feedback to improve. We're helping students build confidence in making choices and trusting themselves as learners.

The classroom itself plays a big role in this. Students are learning to use the space, resources, and displays to support their learning. At times, students are making decisions with flexible seating to ensure they are working at their best, referring to learning tools when they're unsure, and adjusting their environment to help them stay focused. By actively using the classroom to meet their own needs, students are becoming more confident, independent, and in control of how they learn.





STAFF SPOTLIGHT

This week, we catch up with Alumni turned Junior School Teacher Genevieve Powell, whose journey from student to educator has come full circle at Canterbury.

What drew you to teaching, and what led you to Junior School in particular?

I have always enjoyed teaching and supporting others, even as a student myself. After experiencing many wonderful teachers during my 13 years at Canterbury College as a student, I was inspired to pursue teaching when I finished Year 12. Junior School is particularly important to me because these foundation years shape students as learners, and I wanted to be part of nurturing that love of learning for future students.

Year 4 is a big step in students taking more ownership of their learning - what does that look like in your classroom day to day?

Year 4 marks the beginning of upper primary and a shift towards greater responsibility. Students take more ownership by problem-solving learning challenges, managing social situations, and meeting higher expectations. It is a year where growing maturity becomes clear, and students thrive with increased trust and responsibility.

What's a moment this year that made you feel proud to be a teacher?

I have felt immense pride in the motivation my students have shown from the very start of the year. Many have actively asked how they can improve and challenge themselves further. What stands out most is that they are focused on being *their* best rather than *the* best, a level of drive I have not seen this early in a Year 4 cohort before.

Outside the classroom, what are some things you enjoy or that help you stay balanced?

I enjoy reading, spending time with my family and pets, gardening, and baking. I also value time spent with colleagues, whether exploring cafés or sharing experiences outside of school. These moments help me stay grounded and balanced.

What do you hope your students remember about Year 4 and their time in your class?

I hope my students leave Year 4 believing in their potential and having the confidence to keep trying, even when learning is challenging. Most of all, I hope they remember feeling valued, supported, and encouraged to grow as learners and as people.



REMINDER

School Photos are
now available to
purchase.

SCAN BELOW



or visit:

www.advancedlife.com.au

Enter code: **QDF X8R P8Q**

JUNIOR SCHOOL PHOTO DAY: **28 MAY**

SENIOR SCHOOL PHOTO DAY: **3 JUNE**

ELC AND CATCH UP PHOTOS: **11 JUNE**

Cash order envelope forms also accepted.

COMING UP NEXT...

ANZAC Day - Beenleigh March

Saturday 25 April

Year 9 Drama Excursion

Monday 27 April

Years 5-12 Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 28 April and Tuesday 5 May

Ramsey House Spirit Breakfast

Wednesday 29 April

Year 11-12 Sport and Rec Camp

Wednesday 29 April - Friday 1 May

Prep Ball

Friday 1 May





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Principal's Welcome Video | Term 2, 2026 | [Watch Now](#)

2026 Canterbury College ANZAC Day Commemorations | [MyCC News](#)

Welcome Back Reminders: Term 2 | [View Now](#)

Junior School: Welcome to Term 2 | [View Now](#)

Reminder: Prep Ball 1 May 2026 | [View Now](#)

Canteen Lunch Ordering: Year 3 and Year 4 | [Read Now](#)

2026 Easter Hat Parade | [Photo Gallery](#)

Senior School Uniform Review: Year 7, 2027 | [View Now](#)