

THE  
**CANTERBURY**  
WEEKLY



WEEK 4, TERM 2 | FRIDAY 15 MAY 2026

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

# MEAGAN KING



## GROWING TOGETHER: A WARM WELCOME TO CANTERBURY!

One of the things I am most proud of at Canterbury College is the calibre of people who choose to join our community. Schools are, at their very core, about people. It is the quality of the teachers, coaches, tutors, and support staff who shape the culture and experience of a school every single day.

At Canterbury, we continue to attract exceptional educators and leaders who are deeply committed to young people and passionate about helping students thrive. It is this collective expertise, care, and commitment that makes our community so special.

I often reflect on how fortunate we are to work alongside colleagues who not only bring impressive experience and talent, but who genuinely care about building relationships, creating opportunities, and inspiring students to become their very best.

This term, we are delighted to welcome several outstanding staff members into important leadership and coaching roles, within our school community.

We warmly welcome Jana Barnier as our new Head of Becket House. Jana joins Canterbury with extensive experience in pastoral care and student wellbeing, having previously worked at Moreton Bay College as Head of House.

Jana is known for her strong relational approach with students and families, and her commitment to creating environments where young people feel connected, supported, and challenged to grow.

We are excited about the energy, care, and leadership she will bring to the Becket community.



We also welcome Derek Lennon as our new Head of Ramsey House. Derek joins us from Marist College Ashgrove where he was Head of Sport.

He brings a strong commitment to student development, teamwork, and positive culture-building, and we are thrilled to have him leading Ramsey House into their next chapter.



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

## MEAGAN KING



In the sporting arena, we are equally excited to welcome Tania Carlson as our new Coordinator of Netball. Tania brings with her an extraordinary depth of coaching experience, and a genuine passion for developing young athletes.

Tania has been an integral member of the Bond University coaching program since 2022, working as a Ruby HPNL coach, State Titles coach, and defensive specialist. Her experience, passion, and knowledge will be an enormous asset to our growing Canterbury netball program. Tania's netball career began while she was playing Premier netball in the South Waikato region of New Zealand.

Since moving to Australia, she has coached extensively from grassroots through to representative level across the Gold Coast and South Coast regions.

Alongside her teaching career, Tania has continued to refine her coaching expertise, while preparing students for high-level competitions including the Vicki Wilson Cup, QISSN, Queensland Regional School Sport Netball, Primary Schools Cup, and Queensland State Age competitions.

Her representative coaching achievements are exceptional. Between 2021 and 2024, her South Coast regional teams won four consecutive shields undefeated.

Her teams achieved:

- 2019 South Coast 11 Years: Runners Up
- 2021 South Coast 11 Years: Champions
- 2022 South Coast 12 Years: Champions
- 2023 South Coast 12 Years: Champions
- 2024 South Coast 15 Years: Champions
- 2025 South Coast 15 Years: Runners Up



As I look across our College, I am continually reminded that the strength of Canterbury lies in the quality of its people. We are fortunate to attract educators, coaches, and leaders who bring expertise, passion, and heart into our community every day. Most importantly, they understand that relationships matter, and that every interaction has the potential to positively shape a young person's life.

I know our community will join me in warmly welcoming Jana, Derek, and Tania to Canterbury College. We are excited for all that lies ahead.

FROM THE HEADS OF JUNIOR SCHOOL & SENIOR SCHOOL

## NICK STANSBIE & KAREN ROMAN



### ATTENDANCE MATTERS: EVERY DAY COUNTS!

At Canterbury, we know that one of the biggest indicators of student success is simple: being at school. Every lesson, every day, builds confidence, strengthens understanding, and supports our students to achieve their very best.

That's why we are committed to working in partnership with our families to support strong attendance across both Junior and Senior School. Together, we can ensure our students make the most of every opportunity.

We've recently refreshed our Attendance Policy to make it clearer and more supportive for families. You can view it [here](#). This includes better communication around extended absences, so you will always be informed and are able to work with us proactively.

While we understand that absences are sometimes unavoidable, especially when students are unwell, we do keep a close eye on attendance over time. Regular attendance below 90% can have a real impact on learning, and as a school, we are required to follow this up.

Where illness is involved, we are here to help, and with appropriate medical certificates provided, we can support students to stay on track with their learning.



We also recognise the many demands on family life; however, term time is when the rich, connected learning happens, and we are unable to support absences for holidays during this period.

Ultimately, we all share the same goal: the best possible outcome for every Canterbury student. By working together and prioritising attendance, we can ensure our students are present, engaged, and ready to thrive every day.

Every day at school is a day of opportunity, and we look forward to seeing our students there!

FROM THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL (PREP - YR 3)

## BRITTANY SINCLAIR



### WILD RANGERS VISIT: A THRILLING YEAR 1 LEARNING ADVENTURE!

Have you ever seen a lizard with two heads? Or watched a bird gulp down a wriggling worm in one bite? What about an animal that can glide through the air, or even breathe through its bottom? These were just some of the fascinating discoveries our Year 1 students experienced during the recent Wild Rangers incursion, which perfectly supported the Year 1 Science unit on living things.

Some of the most exciting moments included holding a real snake and watching a long-neck turtle flip itself back over, which had everyone amazed and cheering. Students also enjoyed seeing other incredible animals, such as the tawny frogmouth and a crocodile. Some brave student wildlife warriors even fed the tawny frogmouth live wriggling worms.

Throughout the session, students confidently used new vocabulary such as “carnivore” and “nocturnal,” applying these terms in context and growing in their scientific understanding.

Students were able to deepen their understanding of what living things need to survive: food, water, shelter, and suitable habitats. What truly stood out during this experience was the way this learning came alive right before their eyes, sparking genuine curiosity and engagement. At home, Year 1 families could continue this learning by:

#### Backyard or Park “Mini Safari”

Encourage children to look for living things around their home or local area such as birds, insects, lizards, or plants. Children can draw what they observe or share interesting facts they remember from Wild Rangers, using vocabulary like habitat, carnivore, or nocturnal.

#### Animal Fact Chat at Dinner Time

Invite children to choose one animal they saw during the incursion (such as the snake, turtle, or tawny frogmouth) and explain one new fact they learned.

This supports children in revisiting key concepts, and confidently using their new scientific language in everyday conversations.



FROM THE HEAD OF FACULTY - CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

## LAUREN STEER



### YEAR 10 VISUAL ART CERAMIC UNIT

Year 10 Visual Art students have been exploring ceramic techniques this semester through the creation of clay coil pots.

Using traditional hand-building methods, students carefully shaped and joined coils to form unique vessel designs. They experimented with texture, pattern, and form, developing both technical skills and creative expression.

The project encouraged patience and attention to detail, as well as an appreciation for pottery as both a functional and artistic practice. The finished works showcase impressive craftsmanship and individuality.



### DANCE!

Our Year 9 students are well into their Showreel unit, having already filmed dynamic work across lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, and jazz.

They are now moving into short choreography excerpts and professional headshots to build their own personal reels, an exciting step toward industry-style portfolios.

In Year 5, students are exploring dance styles across the decades, bringing their learning to life through an energetic whole-class piece that combines performance and choreography.

Meanwhile, Year 6 are in the midst of creating their own Just Dance videos, choreographing and preparing to edit their work using Canva. Creativity is in full swing throughout the studios this term!

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

# AMANDA VON KANEL



## CANTERBURY ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LEADERSHIP LEARNING (CELL)

Canterbury College continues to foster a strong culture of leadership, innovation, and enterprise through a range of entrepreneurship initiatives. Our Senior School co-curricular programs, Young Business Leaders, and LEAP Entrepreneurship, provide students with the support to develop viable businesses and social enterprises.

The Young Business Leaders Program, delivered in partnership with the Beenleigh Yatala Junior Chamber of Commerce, supports students to develop the skills needed to start and grow their own small businesses.

Across Semester 1, students are guided by the BOP Industries team and Mr Hoppe through each stage of building a business. This experience will culminate in a showcase event on 12 June, with many students continuing their ventures through curriculum subjects and future co-curricular opportunities.

LEAP Entrepreneurship is an extension program for students already operating businesses, and seeking to further refine their skills and scale their ventures.

Students gain hands-on experience in areas such as manufacturing, marketing, finance, and customer engagement, delivered by experienced industry professionals. They are also matched with a one-to-one industry mentor.



As these businesses grow, we are seeking industry professionals to mentor and guide students. If you are interested in mentoring a young entrepreneur, please contact me at [a.vonkanel@canterbury.qld.edu.au](mailto:a.vonkanel@canterbury.qld.edu.au).

In the coming weeks, we look forward to profiling a selection of our student businesses in The Canterbury Weekly, showcasing their products and services, and celebrating the impact our young entrepreneurs are making within the community.



# RYLAN MEAD



## URBAN THREADZ

urbanthreadz.co

### Can you tell us about your business?

Hi, I'm Rylan, a 16-year-old student at Canterbury College and the founder of my own clothing business. I am passionate about delivering affordable, great-looking clothing for teens and adults across Australia that not only look good, but are built to last.

My goal is to create clothes that are thick, durable, high-quality pieces you can wear confidently, whether you're out mountain biking, getting messy, or just living your day-to-day life. Clothes that don't hold you back.

### How has your business evolved?

I've been passionate about expressing creativity through fashion. I am fortunate to have taken Start Up in Year 10, and joined Young Business Leaders two years ago. This year my business is growing through the LEAP co-curricular program and advice from industry experts.

With a love for streetwear, I constantly study the market to see what others are doing, and challenge myself to do it better.

Starting my business at 14 has been an exciting journey, and I hope to inspire others to believe in themselves and do the same too.

### How do you connect with your customers?

Networking and my website are great tools for growing my business. As a young entrepreneur, digital platforms and face-to-face connections help me connect with customers, build a community, and showcase my work.

Many people love supporting young creators, and every order means a lot to me. I also include a personalised note with each package to show my appreciation something I believe makes a small business experience truly special.

### What are some challenges you have had to overcome?

One of the biggest lessons I have learned is to be extremely careful when working with international manufacturers. Communication and trust can be tricky, and unfortunately, it's easy to get scammed if you are not cautious. Always do your research, verify suppliers, and never rush into large orders without being 100% sure. This lesson could save time, money, and stress.

My advice is to reach out to mentors and the teacher support offered at Canterbury from the business teachers, apply for grants, and get your vision out there!

FROM PREP TEACHER

# OLIVIA MCKENZIE



## THE PREP BALL: A FAIRYTALE EVENING



On Friday 1 May, our Prep students and their families enjoyed a truly magical evening at the Prep Ball.

This year's Fairytale theme brought the evening to life, with students arriving dressed as an incredible range of traditional and modern fairytale characters.

From princesses and princes to superheroes and storybook favourites, the costumes were creative, colourful, and full of imagination.

The evening was a wonderful opportunity for Prep families to come together and celebrate as a community.

Families enjoyed a relaxed BBQ while our Prep students danced the night away at the disco, filling the Nabei with excitement, laughter, and plenty of energy.

It was lovely to see the students having so much fun with their classmates outside of the classroom environment, creating special memories with their friends and families.

A big thank you to all of the staff and families who helped make the evening such a success. The joy and enthusiasm from our Prep students made the night one to remember, and we are so grateful to everyone who contributed to such a magical event.

FROM THE CRANMER HOUSE CAPTAIN

## HARRISON CATO



### CRANMER CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE WEEKS

This week, Cranmer House proudly steps into its Student-Led Character, Leadership and Service focus, continuing Canterbury's strong tradition of contributing to the wider community.

Building on the leadership of Goldsworthy and Becket House's transformational service initiatives, Cranmer is excited to lead this year's Rock the Chop & Shave the World campaign, in support of the Cancer Council.

The initiative raises awareness of cancer research, prevention programs, and support services for individuals and families across Australia.

Students and staff are invited to support the cause through donations or by cutting or shaving their hair. Hair donations longer than 20cm will be repurposed into wigs, and donated to Brisbane Accommodation Lodge, helping people undergoing cancer treatment.

Cranmer students will be leading education and awareness lessons with their peers in the lead-up to our Rock the Chop & Shave the World main event, which will take place during the Loud Lunch on Thursday 11 June.

Students in Years 5-12 who are planning to cut or shave their hair are required to raise a minimum of \$150. Sign-up details are available on MyCC, or follow the link [here](#).

This week, Pippa Sharp, Mr Porter, and I proudly represented Canterbury as guests of Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young, Governor of Queensland, at the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea held at Government House.

The event celebrated the contributions of Queensland volunteers and the vital work of the Cancer Council. It was a privilege for Pippa and me to share our initiatives, and act as advocates for young people supporting this important cause.

A colorful poster for the 'Rock the Chop!' event. The background is purple and yellow. At the top, it says 'Are you ready to #ROCK THE CHOP! and Shave the World!' in white and yellow text. Below that, it says 'Cancer Council Panytail Project' with a logo. The Cranmer House crest is on the left. The text 'Join us for the Rock the Chop and Shave the World Student-led Community Service Initiative' is in the center. Below that, it says 'Proudly hosted by Cranmer House' in large yellow letters, and 'In collaboration with Canterbury ROCK SCHOOL' with a guitar logo. The date 'Thursday 11th June' is in purple. The event title 'LOUD LUNCH: ON THE GREEN' is in green. At the bottom, it says 'From 12:55pm: Years 4-12 students welcome to attend during lunch' and 'From 1:25pm: Event continues for Senior School during House Assembly'. There is a QR code and a link to sign up or donate. The bottom of the poster has a green grass border.

Are you ready to  
#ROCK THE CHOP!  
and Shave the World!

Cancer Council  
Panytail Project

CRANMER  
Determination | Strength  
Confidence | Success

Join us for the Rock the Chop and Shave the World  
Student-led Community Service Initiative

Proudly hosted by  
**Cranmer House**  
In collaboration with  
Canterbury  
**ROCK SCHOOL**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June

**LOUD LUNCH:  
ON THE GREEN**

From 12:55pm: Years 4-12 students welcome to attend during lunch  
From 1:25pm: Event continues for Senior School during House Assembly

Click or Scan here to  
sign up or donate!

Laurie Maetam Oval

Parents and Carers Invited

Please bring a picnic blanket

FROM THE COORDINATOR OF CO-CURRICULAR DANCE

# CATHY BROWN



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### What does a typical day within the College look like for you?

No two days are ever the same! Mornings are often spent communicating with parents, liaising with staff, refining lesson plans for the day, and checking in on morning rehearsals. From there, I move between teaching Years 5 and 6 Performing Arts, Year 9 Dance, and Year 7 English, so there is always a balance of creativity, movement, and literacy. After school usually consists of rehearsals, or planning for upcoming events.

### What part of working with the students do you enjoy the most?

I love watching students grow in confidence and find their voice, whether that's on stage or in the classroom. Seeing students take creative risks, collaborate, and achieve something they did not think possible is always incredibly rewarding.

### When reflecting on your career, what is a highlight you'd like to share?

There are so many performance moments that stand out, but I look back on the first dance team I created which started with 9 students, and grew to 40. It is the growth and journey that I reflect on the most.

## BEHIND THE BADGE

### Coffee or tea?

Coffee.

### Early bird or night owl?

Early bird! I enjoy starting the day with a morning workout before getting the kids ready for school.

### Go-to weekend activity?

Quality time with family, trips to the park, and occasionally choreographing first wedding dances for couples.

### Hidden talent or fun fact about you?

There's always music playing in our house, usually along with my out-of-tune singing and improvised lyrics.

### Favourite Canterbury events or traditions?

Dance Spectacular, UN Day, Eisteddfods, Musicals, and of course our new Choreography Competition!

### If you weren't working in education, what would you be doing?

Event coordination or running my own business.

### Favourite food or go-to comfort meal?

Ice-cream.

### Three words students would use to describe you?

Energetic, supportive, and friendly.

# AN IMPORTANT UPDATE

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE - ANTHONY MCRAE

## BACK TO SCHOOL BOOST FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

The Queensland Government has introduced a \$100 "Back to School Boost" for all primary school students.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

**Funding amount:** Each eligible student from Prep to Year 6 will receive \$100.

**When it arrives:** The College expects to receive these funds by late May 2026.

**How it will be applied:** Once received, the \$100 will be credited directly to your family fee account, reducing your 2026 tuition fees.

Families do not need to take any action; the process is handled automatically by the College once funds are released.

### FOR MORE DETAILS

For more details, visit the Queensland Government's information page:  
<https://www.qld.gov.au/backtoschool/boost>

# UPDATED POLICIES

FROM THE RISK AND COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR - LUCIA LEMKE

ATTENDANCE POLICY [HERE](#)

SENIOR SCHOOL ASSESSMENT POLICY [HERE](#)

# COMING UP NEXT

## **Interschool Chess Competition**

Monday 18 May

## **Years 11-12 RSA Course**

Monday 18 May

## **TAS Cross Country**

Tuesday 19 May

## **Da Vinci Decathlon**

Tuesday 19 May - Thursday 21 May

## **Interschool Spanish Day**

Tuesday 19 May

## **Junior TAS Cross Country**

Wednesday 20 May

## **Fuse Cup eSports Round 2**

Wednesday 20 May

## **Junior Chamber of Commerce Networking Event**

Thursday 21 May

## **Year 11 Exam Block**

Friday 22 May

## **Cranmer Family House Chapel**

Sunday 24 May

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

[2026 Prep Ball | Photo Gallery](#)

[Save the Date | Parents Social Event - View Now](#)

[Becket House Service Initiative | Rosies Collection Wrap-Up - View Now](#)

[2026 Ramsey House Spirit Breakfast | Photo Gallery](#)

[Join the Craft Collective - View More](#)

[High School Musical JR: New Tickets Available Now - Purchase Here](#)

[Year 12 Formal | Photo Gallery](#)

[2026 Senior School Cross Country | Photos](#)

