

THE CANTERBURY WEEKLY

WEEK 3, TERM 3

FRIDAY 31 JULY 2026



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DAN WALKER



Assessment at Canterbury from 2027

What is *changing* and *why*

From the start of 2027, Canterbury College will move to fully supervised assessment across Years 7 to 10. Take-home assignments will no longer count toward the results we report to you or the decisions we make about your child's learning pathway.

This is a deliberate and considered change, and I want to explain the reasoning plainly.

Generative artificial intelligence has made it genuinely impossible to know, with any confidence, whether a take-home assignment reflects a student's own thinking or is a tool's output.

We have worked hard to design tasks that get around this problem, but the technology is now moving faster than any task design can keep pace with. The right response is to change the instrument, not keep asking teachers to police an arms race they cannot win.

Supervised assessment takes many forms, and our programmes across Years 7 to 10 will reflect that range. A student might sit a formal written examination, complete a timed in-class essay, or work on an extended piece of writing across several lessons using a controlled browser environment that restricts access to AI tools and external assistance.

What all of these have in common is that a teacher is present and the conditions give us genuine confidence that the result reflects what that student knows and can do.

None of this changes how students learn at Canterbury. Digital tools, AI literacy, research, collaboration, and creative production remain central to every classroom. What changes is where we draw the line on results: the grade we report to you will reflect what your child can demonstrate on their own, in the room.

We also want to be clear that AI has a genuine and powerful place in every student's learning journey. In 2027, we will be investing more deliberately in giving students the practical skills to use AI tools well, building the kind of deep understanding that allows them to walk into a supervised assessment and perform with real confidence. The goal is for students who use AI to think harder, not students who use it to avoid thinking altogether.

Years 11 and 12 are governed by QCAA syllabuses, and the College will meet every one of those requirements exactly as prescribed. Further detail on what this means subject by subject, and how we will support students through the transition, will follow through usual school communications.

FROM THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

MITCHELL STAPLES



World Ready: Subject Selection and Pathways in Full Swing

Across the Senior School, students from Years 8-12 are taking real steps towards becoming World Ready, with subject selection and pathway planning in full motion this term.

Our Year 12 cohort and families attended the QTAC Information Evening on Tuesday night, where our Director of Student Futures, Tracey Clarke, walked families through key dates, the university application process, preferencing strategies, and how to respond to offers. Several College alumni joined the evening too, sharing first-hand insights and fielding questions from current students about life after Canterbury.

Year 10 students are building on the momentum from last term's subject selection evening, where they heard from Dominique Lamb, whose role with the 2032 Brisbane Olympics allowed them to hear about the opportunities the Olympics will provide for their generation. Following that, a chance to engage directly with Heads of Faculty and specialist teachers about the different subjects on offer and where they can lead. The students are now moving into one-on-one meetings with either myself, Mr Walker, or Mrs Adamson to finalise their Year 11 and 12 subject choices.

These conversations give each student dedicated time to talk through their options, ask questions specific to their own goals and career aspirations, and make subject selections that set them up well for the senior years ahead.

Meanwhile, our Years 8 and 9 students will soon have their own introduction to the process, with a presentation during CaRE lessons in the coming weeks which will cover the subjects available to them, how the selection process works, and the key considerations to think about before choices need to be made. While it's still early days for these students, starting the conversation now means they'll head into their own selection process with a clearer picture of what's ahead.

From these first conversations through to Year 12 offers, subject selection at Canterbury is about giving students the information and support they need to choose pathways that genuinely suit them.





Academic CAPTAIN

ALLEGRA WILLIAMS

What is your favourite subject and co-curricular activity at Canterbury, and why?

My favourite subject would have to be Literature because the classroom environment is really positive and light-hearted. My favourite co-curricular activity is hockey, as training sessions and games are always good vibes from everyone!

Which teacher has had the biggest impact on you, and why?

Ms Moore. She really sparked my interest in science in Years 8 and 9, which has led me to where I am today and my love of biology.

What made you put your hand up for your captaincy role?

Academics can be really isolating for so many people, me included, so I wanted to work on improving connection and preventing isolation, particularly in younger year levels.

Is there a career or field you're excited to explore after Canterbury?

I'm hoping to go into Nutrition and Dietetics, so I am very excited to explore that next year!

As a school, we place great value on academic growth, effort, and achievement. Over the past year, I have been passionate about finding ways for students to become more actively involved in their learning and to see academics as an opportunity for collaboration and personal growth.

Term 3 is a reminder of the importance of consistency and perseverance, as we reach a busy time in the year. As assessments continue, I encourage students to challenge themselves and take pride in their progress. Success at school is not only measured by results, but also by the effort, resilience, and willingness to learn that students demonstrate every day. By remaining organised and supporting one another, every student can continue to make meaningful progress throughout the remainder of the school year.

Taipan Tutors continues to be a wonderful example of students supporting students. Each week, students volunteer their time to help younger learners strengthen their understanding and build confidence. Beyond improving academic skills, the program encourages leadership, new connections, and a growing sense of community. Thank you to every tutor who has committed their time and energy this year.

One of the newest highlights has been welcoming our Year 6 students into Taipan Tutors as they begin looking ahead to secondary school. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm to get involved, and I hope these early experiences help them feel excited and confident about the transition ahead.

I encourage everyone to make the most of the months ahead. Together, we can continue to strengthen our community, support one another, and finish the year with the same enthusiasm and school spirit that make Canterbury so special.

FROM THE HEAD OF AI AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

JAMES JENKINS



Canterbury Hosts Outstanding eSports Events

Over the past two weeks, Canterbury College has proudly hosted two major Fuse Cup Mario Kart competitions, welcoming students from across South East Queensland and showcasing the growing strength of school eSports. The combined events attracted about 160 competitors and highlighted not only high-level gameplay, but also the positive culture that eSports can foster.

The first event was the Brisbane Girls Gamer Competition, which brought together more than 50 students for a girls-only Mario Kart tournament. Canterbury students delivered an exceptional performance, claiming three of the four places in the Grand Final. Yulia Kovalev emerged as the eventual champion and secured her place at the State Finals. Equally impressive was the atmosphere throughout the day, with Fuse Cup organisers commenting on the kindness and sportsmanship displayed by the competitors.

The excitement continued the following week as Canterbury hosted the Logan Regional Mario Kart Championships. 12 Canterbury students competed across the Years 5-8 and Years 9-12 divisions against a field of more than 110 students.

In the Years 5-8 competition, Canterbury drivers dominated the semi-finals, filling five of the six available places across the two races. Ava Olsen then produced a flawless Grand Final performance to claim the regional title and join Yulia at the State Finals. The Years 9-12 division was fiercely competitive, with Lincoln Homan leading Canterbury's challenge and narrowly missing a place in the Grand Final after an impressive tournament run.

These results reflect the dedication of our students and the strength of Canterbury's eSports program. As Yulia and Ava prepare for the State Finals, we look forward to cheering them on and celebrating the continued growth of eSports at Canterbury.



LIZZIE SCHLUTER



Interschool Maths Team Challenge

recap

On Tuesday 29 July, Canterbury proudly hosted the annual Interschool Maths Team Challenge, welcoming 95 teams from 24 schools, competing for the title of South-East Math Team Challenge Champions.

Canterbury entered 12 teams across four divisions, with students from Years 5-12 representing the College.

We are thrilled to announce that Canterbury College Intermediate Team A claimed first place, losing just one mark across the entire competition. This outstanding achievement is a testament to the team's mathematical skill and teamwork.

Congratulations to:

Jonty McCormack (Year 9)

Kavin Velu (Year 9)

Mikael Sandanayake (Year 10)

William Laredo (Year 10)

Mujtaba Shah (Year 10)

While we did not secure additional podium finishes, several of our teams came incredibly close.

Primary Division

Canterbury College Team C: 6th place

Junior Division

Canterbury College Team C: 4th place

Intermediate Division

Canterbury College Team C: 5th place

Senior Division

Canterbury College Team A: 5th place

Congratulations to all of our talented mathematicians who participated and represented Canterbury so well throughout the day.

Reflecting on the event, I could not be happier with how smoothly everything ran. Events of this scale are only possible because of the incredible support of our staff and students.

A special thank you goes to Katrina Flower, Baz Torok, the Facilities team, Mark Hoppe, Suzanne Koberler, and Chris Pollock for your support and assistance before and during the event.

We look forward to hosting a bigger and even better Interschool Maths Team Challenge again in 2027!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**A DEEP DIVE WITH PIANO/CHAMBER MUSIC COORDINATOR
TIM LI**



What is something you have changed your mind about as an educator, and what shifted your thinking?

I used to think my job was to produce great musicians. Now I think it's to build great musical friendships. Competitions come and go, but the best ensembles are the ones where students genuinely enjoy turning up to rehearsal and each other's company - even when they know how savage I can be about things that need improvement.

Describe a moment recently that reminded you why you do this work.

At a recent eisteddfod, one of our groups finished performing and immediately went backstage to wish another ensemble good luck. In that moment, I thought, "Excellent, they're becoming decent human beings." The music is important, but instilling beautiful humanities in young people - that's the bigger win.

Another example is when I walk past a practice room at lunch and find students rehearsing without a teacher. That's when I know the program no longer belongs to me, it belongs to them.

What do you want students to still remember about your lessons in 10 years, and why that, rather than the content?

I think they would probably remember that my feedback is brutally honest and direct, but it always comes from believing they can do better. They'll forget most of the rehearsal notes, but I hope they'll remember that excellence and kindness, an indefatigable pursuit of unattainable perfection and fun, can all exist in the same room, and that making music with others is one of life's greatest joys.

What is something Canterbury does that you have not seen done as well elsewhere?

We don't just teach chamber music, we build a culture around it. Students from different year levels rehearse, travel, perform, and celebrate together.

Winning competitions is exciting, but seeing students celebrate each other's successes as enthusiastically as their own - that's much harder to build than a trophy cabinet, and far more valuable.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

GETTING TO KNOW PIANO/CHAMBER MUSIC COORDINATOR
TIM LI



What is your hidden talent or fun fact about you?

I can hear one wrong note in a 16-part ensemble from 30 metres away. It's less a talent and more an occupational hazard.

What is your go-to weekend activity?

I enjoy hiking and nature, although I have yet to do a multi-day hike. Definitely something on the cards though!

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

An air traffic controller. I already spend my day preventing harmonic collisions.

What is the best piece of advice you were given early in your career?

Praise in public, critique in private. Unless it's a wrong rhythm. Then everyone probably noticed already.

What is a subject you wish you had studied more seriously at school?

Statistics, so I could calculate the probability of everyone bringing a pencil to rehearsals. It appears to be close to zero.

What is a question a student asked that genuinely stumped you?

"Mr Li, were you born this strict, or did you have to practice?"
I still don't have a satisfactory answer.



SUPPORTERS BARBECUE

BE A PART OF THE ACTION AT OUR
TERM 3 TAS HOME GAMES

SAT
25
JUL

SAT
1
AUG

SAT
29
AUG

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

TO ASSIST, SIMPLY FOLLOW THE LINK [HERE](#).

COMING UP NEXT

Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod: Senior School Dance

Tuesday 4 August

2027 Aspiring Prefect Speeches

Tuesday 4 August

Healthy Chats and Connections

Tuesday 4 August

Pacific District Track & Field

Tuesday 4 August & Wednesday 5 August

Interschool Chess Competition

Thursday 6 August

Vicki Wilson Netball Finals

Thursday 6 August & Friday 7 August

Parent Information Session: Students with Additional Needs

Thursday 6 August

Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod: Junior School Dance

Friday 7 August

Music Showcase at St Mary's

Friday 7 August

Seniors Volleyball Schools Cup

Friday 7 August - Sunday 9 August

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Years 3-6 Athletics Carnival House Winners and Age Champions | [View Now](#)

Reminder: Open Days 2026 | [View More](#)

Prep Celebrates 100 Days of Learning | [Photo Gallery](#)

Interschool Maths Teams Challenge | [View More](#)

Taipan Tutors | [View More](#)

2026 Oxford Academic Study Tour | [Photo Gallery](#)

Pemulwuy Male Voice Festival | [View More](#)

2026 Winter Music Festival | [View More](#)

The School Locker: Cashless Payments from 1 August | [View More](#)

Logan Art Gallery's 'Where Do I Belong?' Exhibition | [View More](#)