

THE CANTERBURY WEEKLY

WEEK 4, TERM 3

FRIDAY 7 AUGUST 2026



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

MEAGAN KING



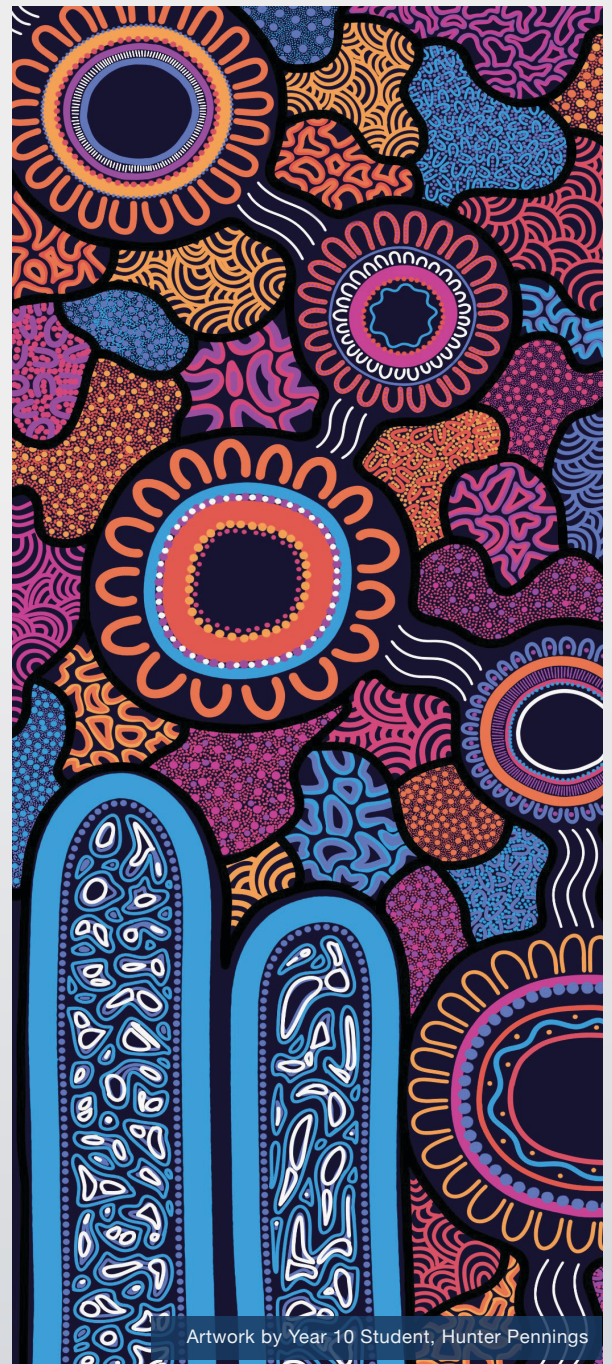
Canterbury Hosts the **National Future of Education Summit**

Last week, Canterbury College proudly welcomed educators, innovators, and industry leaders from across Australia as we hosted the 2026 Future of Education Summit. Bringing together over 200 delegates, the Summit provided a dynamic platform for sharing ideas, exploring emerging trends, and discussing how schools can best prepare young people for an increasingly complex and rapidly changing future.

Hosting an event of this scale places Canterbury College at the forefront of educational innovation and professional learning. It demonstrates our commitment to not only delivering exceptional outcomes for our own students, but also contributing to broader conversations that shape the future of teaching, learning, and leadership across Australia.

Canterbury students, Hunter and Logan Pennings, delivered a fabulous Acknowledgement of Country. Hunter also shared his inspiring journey as a young Indigenous entrepreneur and artist. His original Summit artwork, commissioned for the event, was proudly showcased throughout the conference and provided a meaningful visual representation of connection, knowledge sharing, and future-focused thinking.

The Summit program featured a range of keynote presentations, workshops, learning experiences, and roundtable discussions. I had the privilege of interviewing Tim Bullard, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL).



Artwork by Year 10 Student, Hunter Pennings

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

MEAGAN KING



Together we explored the future of educational leadership, emerging priorities for the profession, and the vital role schools play in supporting both student and staff growth in an ever-changing landscape.

We were equally proud to see several Canterbury staff members take centre stage throughout the event. Amanda von Kanel, Director of Student Development, facilitated a roundtable exploring transformational student leadership. Her session encouraged delegates to consider how schools can empower young people to lead with purpose, service, and impact.

James Jenkins, Head of AI and Digital Transformation, co-presented a Future Focused Learning Experience centred on digital upskilling through community. His session explored how educators can build confidence and capability in emerging technologies, while creating learning communities that support innovation and growth.

Feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on the warmth of the Canterbury community, especially the students who made them feel so welcome, the quality of our facilities, and the professionalism of our staff.

These comments reflect what our families already know: Canterbury is a connected, future-focused community that embraces opportunity while remaining grounded in strong values.

Events such as the Future of Education Summit reinforce the important role our school plays in shaping not only student outcomes, but also the future direction of education itself. It was a privilege to welcome educators from across the country to our campus and to showcase the expertise, passion, and innovation that exists within the Canterbury community.



FROM THE HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

NICK STANSBIE



Growing Up in a Digital World: An Evening With Daniel Principe

Over the past week, our Senior School boys had the privilege of spending time with youth advocate and educator, Daniel Principe, who worked with students across every year level, engaging them in thoughtful and age-appropriate conversations about masculinity, identity, relationships, and the influences shaping young men today.

Daniel's presentations challenged our students to reflect critically on the messages they receive about what it means to "be a man." In a world where social media and the broader digital landscape exert significant influence on young people's thinking and behaviour, he explored the pressures adolescent boys can feel to conform to narrow and often unrealistic stereotypes of masculinity.

Through honest discussion and powerful storytelling, Daniel encouraged our students to consider how these expectations can impact their relationships, wellbeing, and sense of self.

Importantly, Daniel emphasised the value of authenticity, empathy, respect, and courage in developing a healthy and positive sense of manhood. His message reinforced many of the character values that we seek to nurture in our students each day, and provided boys with practical strategies for navigating the challenges of the online world, while remaining true to themselves and their values.

On Monday evening, Daniel also met with parents, offering valuable insights into the digital environment in which today's young people are growing up.

The session provided parents with a deeper understanding of the social pressures, online influences, and cultural narratives affecting adolescent boys, while also sharing practical approaches for fostering meaningful conversations and strong connections at home.



FROM THE HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

NICK STANSBIE



Continuing our commitment to supporting the wellbeing and personal growth of all students, our Senior School girls will have a similar opportunity on Thursday 13 August when they participate in “Beyond the Mascara”, a program facilitated by the group of educators, Peer Power. This engaging, empowering session will encourage students to reflect on how they view and value what it means to be a healthy and authentic young woman in today’s society.

The program focuses on developing the skills and dispositions needed to live with innate confidence, practise compassion for both oneself and others, grow in personal capacity, and move beyond the culture of constant comparison that can so often shape adolescent experiences. We look forward to the valuable conversations and insights that this program will provide for our girls as they continue to develop a strong sense of identity, purpose, and self-worth.

“The Person I’m Becoming” Year 8 Parent and Child Information Evening

Building on the themes explored both by Daniel Principe and Peer Power, we look forward to hosting our Year 8 students and their families next Wednesday 12 August, for an evening entitled “The Person I’m Becoming.”

Facilitated by the Rites of Passage Institute, this special event invites each Year 8 student to attend alongside a trusted adult of the same gender.

The evening is designed to create space for meaningful conversations at a significant stage of adolescence, when young people are beginning to think more deeply about who they are, who they want to become, and the values that will guide them into adulthood.

Through a series of guided activities and discussions, students will have the opportunity to share their hopes, aspirations, and dreams for the future, while also exploring some of the challenges and uncertainties that accompany the journey towards adulthood. Equally important, trusted adults will have the opportunity to listen, encourage, and affirm the young people in their care, reinforcing that they do not have to navigate life’s complexities alone.

At a time when many young people feel significant pressure to conform to often unhealthy stereotypes and external expectations, this evening seeks to celebrate individuality, authenticity, and character. It recognises that developing a strong sense of identity is not something that happens in isolation, but through supportive relationships, honest conversations, and the wisdom of trusted mentors.

We are excited to offer this opportunity to our Year 8 families and look forward to an evening that strengthens connections, fosters understanding, and helps our young people take another important step towards becoming confident and resilient adults. If you are in Year 8 and have not yet indicated your attendance, you can do so [here](#).

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PERFORMING ARTS

KATRINA PEDDELL



Quota Eisteddfods: A Showcase of Talent!

Canterbury students are enjoying an outstanding Eisteddfod season, achieving impressive results across Music and Dance.

At the Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod, our Music students achieved exceptional success across a range of categories. The Junior School Choir, Bravura Strings, Junior Concert Band, Junior School Brass Quintet, and ARTISTrio all were awarded 1st Place in their respective divisions.

Strong results were also achieved by Allegro Strings (2nd), Synergy (3rd), the Brass Ensemble (3rd), Clarinet Ensemble (Highly Commended), Junior Singers (3rd), and the Year 9 Piano Trio (3rd).

A special congratulations is extended to Evie Schelbach, whose creativity and musicianship were recognised with 1st Place in both Secondary School Grade 7-10 Composition sections, an outstanding individual achievement.

Our Dance students were equally successful. The Canterbury Dance Company achieved 1st Place in the Contemporary section and 2nd Place for Student Choreography, while also receiving Highly Commended awards in Jazz and Any Other Style.

The Show Team secured 1st Place in the Grade 9 and Under Lyrical category, and achieved additional placings across Contemporary (Highly Commended) and Any Other Style (3rd) sections. Hip Hop Varsity also earned 3rd Place in the Secondary School Hip Hop category.

Success continued at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod, where Canterbury's chamber musicians once again, impressed adjudicators.

The Year 9 Piano Trio achieved 2nd Place, ARTISTrio secured 3rd Place, and The Doppler Effect was awarded 1st Place in the Under 20 Years Chamber Music section. In a remarkable achievement, The Doppler Effect was also named Most Outstanding Chamber Ensemble across all chamber music categories.

These results are a testament to the hard work, perseverance, and passion of our students, as well as the dedication of our Performing Arts staff. We congratulate all performers on their achievements and look forward to celebrating further success as the Eisteddfod season continues, with our Junior School Dance teams preparing to take the stage at the Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod this Friday, followed by performances from all Junior and Senior School Dance teams at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod at the end of August.



BRITTANY SINCLAIR



Children's Rights, Resilience, and Responsibilities

During Week 3 of Term 2, our Junior School students engaged in rich discussions and learning experiences centred around Children's Rights. Students learned that while every child has rights, such as the right to feel safe, to learn, to be heard, and to be cared for, these rights are accompanied by responsibilities.

As part of this learning, students also broadened their understanding of the world by exploring the experiences of children in other countries. They reflected on the fact that many children around the globe do not have access to the same rights, opportunities, and resources that we often take for granted. This learning has linked closely with our Character and Resilience lessons, where we have been exploring GEM: Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness, through The Resilience Project. These three elements are powerful tools in helping children develop resilience and a positive outlook on life.

We are fortunate to be part of a school community where students are cared for, supported, and encouraged to grow. Our classrooms are places where students can take risks in their learning, attempt challenging tasks, make mistakes, step outside their comfort zones, and develop a growth mindset.

Learning is not about always being the best or always getting things right; it is about embracing challenges, persevering through difficulties, and understanding that growth comes from the learning process itself. As parents and educators, our goal is not to manicure or remove every obstacle from a child's path.

Instead, we aim to equip students with the skills, mindset, and confidence needed to thrive in a variety of circumstances. Resilience is built when children learn that feeling uncomfortable, challenged, or uncertain is a normal and valuable part of learning.

How can families support at home?

One practical strategy from The Resilience Project is encouraging children to shift their language from "I have to" to "I get to."

Instead of "I have to do my homework," try **"I get to learn new things."**

Instead of "I have to go to camp," try **"I get to have an adventure and create new memories."**

Instead of "This is hard," try **"This is hard, but I can handle it."**

This simple shift in language helps children focus on opportunities rather than obligations, fostering gratitude and resilience. We encourage families to try The Resilience Project's challenge this week. Notice when "I have to" is used and help your child reframe it as "I get to." Together, we can nurture grateful, compassionate, and resilient young people.

Read More on The Resilience Project [here](#). You may also like to read this book on children's rights *"The Right To Be Me"* with your child [here](#).

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

AMANDA VON KANEL



World Ready Opportunities for Our Years 9 and 10 Students: *Micro-credentials*

Micro-credentials are increasingly being recognised in education as a valuable way to enhance learning, complement university pathways, and develop workplace-ready skills. At Canterbury College, we are bringing these opportunities to our Senior School students.

If the term micro-credential is new to you, think of them as short, industry focused courses that allow students to build a portfolio of experiences and skills aligned with what employers are increasingly seeking. Our Years 9 and 10 students participate in a two-day micro-credential program designed to prepare them to be world ready.

This year, students can choose from unique course options spanning industries including healthcare, construction, entrepreneurship, publishing, media, sports coaching and nutrition, global citizenship, technology, and the creative arts. Each course provides authentic, hands-on learning alongside industry experts, universities, and community partners.

Our micro-credential programs have been intentionally designed to highlight and develop two of the 16 Canterbury World Ready Skills. These skills were identified through research into emerging workforce needs, including national and international reports on the future of work, alongside feedback from educators, local business owners, and our students.

While engaging with industries, students intentionally develop transferable skills and collect evidence of how they have demonstrated them. This gives students a shared language to recognise, articulate, and celebrate their strengths.

Perhaps most importantly, the program builds “skills confidence” and exposure to different industries and pathways. Recently, a Year 10 student shared her experience of applying for a part-time job. When asked the common interview question, “Tell us about yourself and your strengths,” she confidently described the skills she had developed through her 2025 micro-credential, using the language and providing examples of the experiences she had learned.

She also highlighted the micro-credential on her résumé, providing tangible evidence of her learning, thus helping her stand out as a candidate.

We look forward to our Years 9 and 10 students participating in their selected micro-credential programs on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 September, where they will build valuable skills, confidence, and career awareness through authentic industry experiences.

Please find the link to more information on the micro-credential program on MyCC [here](#).



Prepare for the real world with our micro-credential two-day courses. Industry connected courses that build World Ready capabilities and transferable skills for the future.

The image displays 14 circular icons, each representing a different skill or quality. The icons are arranged in three rows:

- Row 1:**
 - Character Development (Yellow)
 - Collaboration (Green)
 - Communication (Red)
 - Confidence and Presentation (Purple)
 - Problem Solving (Blue)
- Row 2:**
 - Global Citizenship (Red)
 - Emotional Intelligence (Blue)
 - Curiosity (Purple)
 - Resilience (Orange)
 - Event Co-ordination (Green)
 - Compassion (Teal)
- Row 3:**
 - Creativity (Pink)
 - Innovation (Orange)
 - Leadership (Teal)
 - Empathy (Light Blue)
 - Flexible Thinking (Purple)

Each icon features a laurel wreath border and a central text label.



Prepare for the real world with our micro-credential two-day courses. Industry connected courses that build World Ready capabilities and transferable skills for the future.

The image displays a grid of 24 circular icons, each representing a different program and its associated theme. The icons are arranged in four rows and six columns. Each icon features a university logo, a program name, and a theme. The themes are: Communication - Problem Solving, Innovation - Flexible Thinking, Innovation - Confidence and Resilience, Problem Solving - Resilience, Leadership - Compassion, Global Citizenship - Communication, Innovation - Creativity, Creativity - Collaboration, Communication - Confidence and Resilience, Empathy - Emotional Intelligence, Flexible Thinking - Character Development, Empathy - Creativity, Innovation - Curiosity, Emotional Intelligence - Curiosity, Event Coordination - Curiosity, Problem Solving - Resilience, and Character Development - Communication.

COMING UP NEXT

EKKA Public Holiday

Monday 10 August

ELC to Year 2 Interhouse Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 12 August

Years 11-12 Sport and Recreation Incursion

Wednesday 12 August

“The Person I’m Becoming” Year 8 Parent and Child Information Evening

Wednesday 12 August

She Leads Summit

Thursday 13 August

Peer Power Presentation

Thursday 13 August

Year 4 Camp Parent Information Session

Thursday 13 August

ELC and Junior School Photo Day

Friday 14 August

Year 5 HaSS Excursion

Friday 14 August

Years 7-12 Senior School Theatre Production: Canterbury Player

Friday 14 August



Canterbury

2026

FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

**Celebrating the Dads in our
Canterbury Community**

Join us for a relaxed Father's Day **BBQ** before
enjoying our annual **Dance Spectacular** together.

Friday 4 September

BBQ: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Dance Spectacular: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

[GET YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)

JOIN US FOR OUR 2026



DANCE *Spectacular*

Friday 4 September

Includes ***Father's Day BBQ*** from 4pm
Dance Spectacular from **6pm - 7:30pm**
Canterbury Events Centre (CEC)

Unmissable performances by Canterbury's very own:

Rise Dance | Shine Dance Company | Flame Dance | Ignite Dance Company | Show Team
Canterbury Dance Company | BoyzCrew | Hip Hop Varsity | Hip Hop Squad | Little Groovers - Prep
Blaze Crew | Canterbury Dance Troupe | BoyZone | Spark Dance | Phoenix Dance



Canterbury



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Years 9 and 10 Micro-Credential Program | [View More](#)

Introducing the Talngai Precinct | [Watch Video](#)

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

Taipan Tutors | [View More](#)

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

Music Production Studio Lessons | [View More](#)

2026 Senior School Drama Production: Puffs | [View More](#)

Year 11 Outdoor Education Camp | [Photo Gallery](#)

Junior School Photo Day - Friday 14 August 2026 | [View More](#)

Students with Additional Needs Parent Information Session | [Change of Date](#)

Senior Dance Eisteddfod Success | [Read More](#)

ELC to Year 2 Interhouse Athletics Carnival | [View Date & More Info](#)