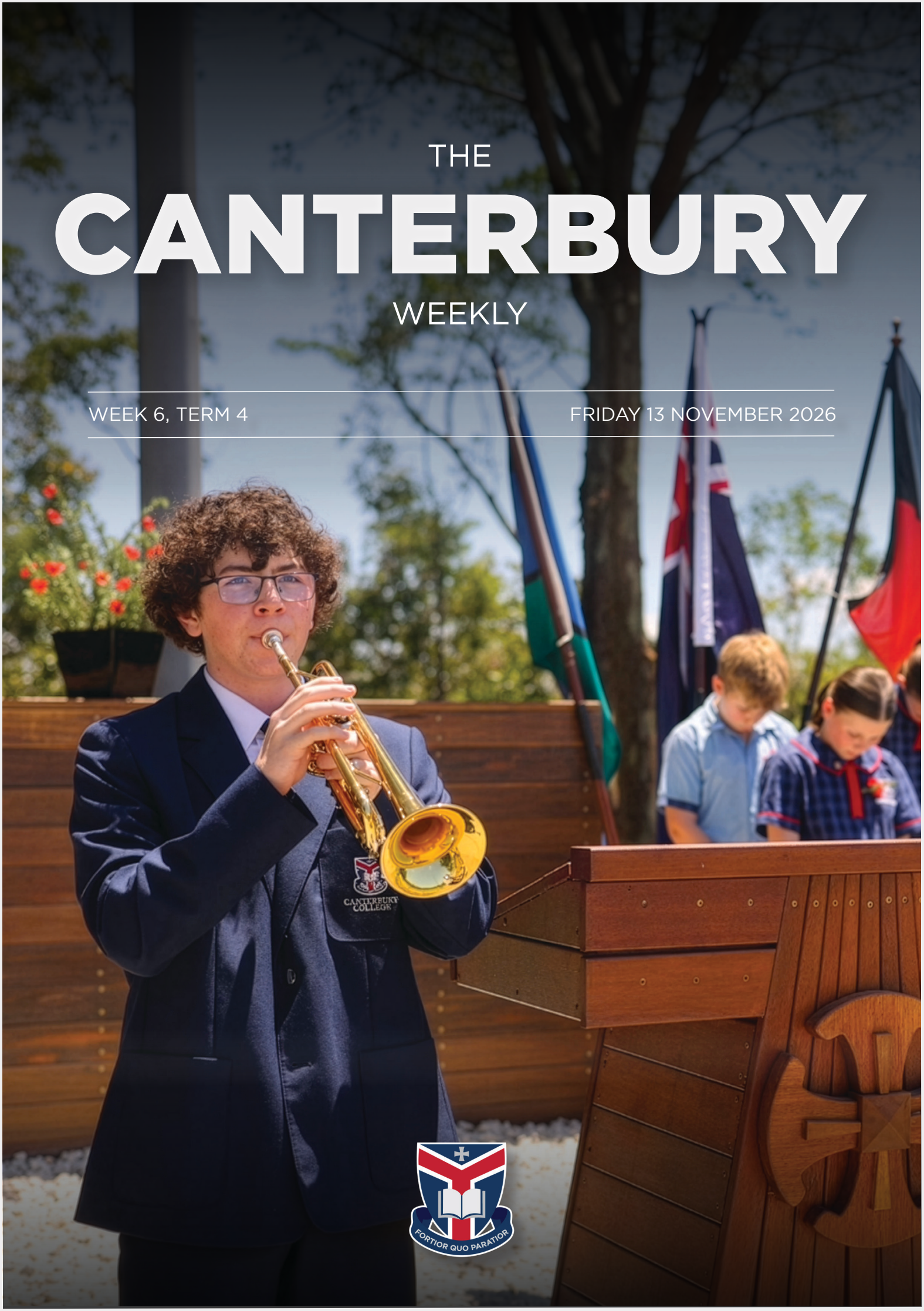


THE CANTERBURY WEEKLY

WEEK 6, TERM 4

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2026

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

MEAGAN KING



The Joy of Teaching: Every Day Matters

There is something quite special about this time of year in a school.

As we celebrated World Teachers' Day on Friday 30 October, I found myself reflecting on the privilege and joy of teaching, and on the thousands of moments, big and small, that make this profession so special.

As we head towards the final days for our Year 12 students and look forward to celebrating Valedictory and Graduation, we are also beginning to welcome our new 2027 Prep students and other new students who will join the Canterbury community next year.

I am always struck by the beautiful rhythm of this moment. As we farewell one group, another is just beginning. Our Year 12s are preparing to walk through the gates as students for the final time, while our newest Canterbury students are taking their first steps into classrooms that will soon become familiar places.

It is the flow of a great school.

Schools are filled with beginnings and endings, first days and last days, and thousands of seemingly ordinary days in between. Yet, when you work in education, you quickly learn that very few of those days are actually ordinary.

For me, that is at the heart of the joy of teaching.

One of the things that makes Canterbury a little different is that our Executive Leadership Team are teachers first. Every member of our team teaches at least one class. Between us, we bring expertise in Primary, English, Science, Humanities, and Mathematics.

While our days might also involve strategy, staffing, budgets, meetings, and the decisions involved in leading a busy school, each of us still has a place on our timetable where the job becomes wonderfully simple again: we teach.

And I think if you asked any one of us our favourite part of the day, there is a very good chance we would say, our class.

Teaching keeps us connected to the real work of a school. Students make us laugh, challenge our thinking, and remind us constantly why education matters. There is enormous joy in seeing a student finally understand something they have wrestled with, find the confidence to contribute, or realise they are capable of more than they thought.

At this point in the year, it can be tempting to begin counting down. Students are tired. Teachers are tired. Families are juggling end-of-year commitments and Christmas plans. The finish line is very much in sight.

But every last day matters.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

MEAGAN KING



There is still learning to be done, encouragement to be given, and moments of connection to be shared. The way we finish matters because it tells our students that their learning matters right until the end.

Soon, we will watch our Year 12 students leave Canterbury, excited about everything that lies ahead. At almost the same time, we will welcome our newest students and watch their Canterbury journey begin.

That is one of the great privileges of working in a school like ours. From the child walking nervously into their first classroom to the young adult walking across the stage at Graduation, there are thousands of days, lessons, and interactions in between.

Not every day will be remembered. But every day matters. And that, I think, is the enduring joy of teaching.





FROM THE COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

FR. DAN TALBOT



Canterbury Christmas Appeal: Sharing the Joy of Christmas

Canterbury College will be sharing the Joy of Christmas as we continue our partnership with Anglicare Foster and Kinship Care, bringing joy and hope to children and young people across the Logan and Gold Coast regions this Christmas.

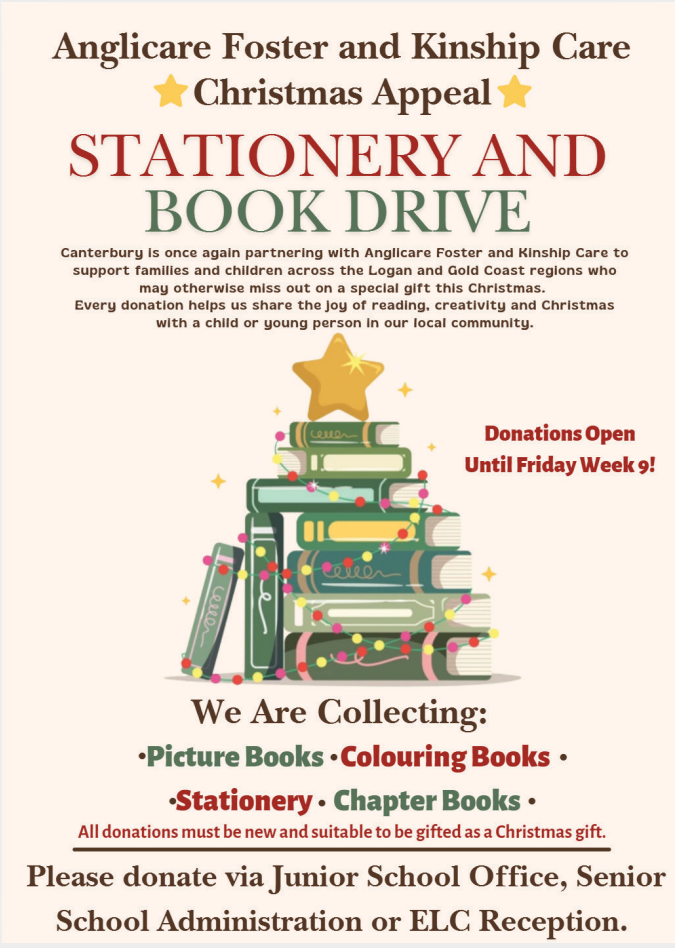
We are inviting all students from ELC to Year 12 to support this important community initiative, by donating new gifts that can make a real difference in the life of a child or teenager in care. Donations may include new children's books, Christmas-themed books, colouring and mindful colouring books, stationery, chapter books, and other age-appropriate gifts.

This year, we are especially encouraging students to consider donating a gift suitable for someone in their own age group. While we are always grateful for gifts for younger children, teenagers in foster and kinship care are often overlooked. A thoughtful chapter book, stationery set, or mindful colouring book could become a treasured Christmas gift for a young person who might otherwise miss out.

Donations can be placed at the Junior School Office, Senior School Office, or ELC Reception and are welcome until the final week of term.

Every donation, no matter how small, helps share the joy of creativity, and Christmas with children and young people in our local community.

Together, we can make this festive season brighter for those who need it most. Give the gift you would love to receive and help make Christmas special for a child or young person in care.



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

BRITTANY SINCLAIR



Year 3 Outdoor Education: Adventure, Challenge, and Growth

Our Year 3 students recently returned from an incredible camp experience at Kindilan Bush Camp in Redland Bay, filled with adventure, teamwork, laughter, and personal growth.

One of the highlights was canoeing, where students worked together to paddle their canoes while collecting floating rubber ducks from around the water. Success required cooperation and problem-solving, with students quickly learning that teamwork was the key to achieving their goals.

Another exciting challenge was the survival shelter activity. Using only a tarp, sticks, and rope, each team was tasked with building a shelter strong enough to withstand a “storm”. Students thought creatively, shared ideas, and worked collaboratively before putting their structures to the ultimate test as camp leaders sprayed them with water to see whether they stayed dry. There was plenty of excitement as students discovered the importance of planning and persistence.

Students also tackled the thrilling Possum Glider. For many, stepping into a harness and being lifted into the air was well outside their comfort zone. Trusting their teammates, who powered the glider by running in the opposite direction, required courage and confidence. It was wonderful to watch students encourage one another, overcome nerves, and celebrate their achievements together.

Beyond the activities, camp provided many valuable opportunities for independence. For some students, this was their first experience away from home. They took responsibility for their belongings, packed and unpacked their bags, tried new foods, and learned important life skills in a supportive environment.

Of course, camp was not all challenges. A particular favourite was the evening disco, where students danced, laughed, and enjoyed spending time with their friends.

Outdoor Education is often about stepping beyond what feels comfortable, and our Year 3 students embraced this beautifully. Throughout the experience, they showed resilience, perseverance, and a willingness to try new things. We are incredibly proud of the way they supported one another, worked together, and rose to every challenge presented to them.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

AMANDA VON KANEL



Celebrating Canterbury Entrepreneurship and Leadership Learning (CELL)

Canterbury ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LEADERSHIP LEARNING

Opportunity • Innovation • Growth



There is so much to celebrate across Canterbury's entrepreneurship programs as our students continue to turn creative ideas into businesses with real potential and impact!

LEAP: Celebrating Student Success

Our recent LEAP Entrepreneurship Celebration recognised the achievements and entrepreneurial journeys of students throughout 2026. Students heard from a panel of industry professionals, gaining valuable feedback, advice, and connections to help take their businesses to the next level.

The afternoon also celebrated the many milestones achieved by our young entrepreneurs, including successful market stalls, industry connections, external business competitions, and positive community impact.

A special congratulations to Hunter, founder of Penno Collections, who was named Young Change Agents Teens in Business Indigenous Entrepreneur of the Year. This is an outstanding achievement!

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

AMANDA VON KANEL



Future Anything Grand Finals

On Monday evening, four Canterbury teams showcased their businesses and competed in the national Future Anything Grand Finals.

Our finalists included:

Harry B and Jonty M, co-founders of Just Keep Rolling: A social enterprise bringing mental health awareness and positive affirmations into everyday life through an unexpected product: toilet paper!

Lucas K, founder of Luxe LK: A growing fragrance business that has responded to customer feedback and achieved consistent weekend market sales, expanding its range to include signature scents, car diffusers, room diffusers, and room sprays.

Hunter P, founder of Penno Collections: A scalable, customisable art business that embeds First Nations knowledge and education through stunning, original artwork.

Violet D, founder of Sweet Sketches: A creative combination of edible crayons and delicious cookie canvases, bringing fun, entertainment and a little sweetness to parties and celebrations.

Congratulations to all four teams on their outstanding efforts in representing Canterbury on the national stage, and a special mention to Lucas, who took home the Hustle Award in recognition of his entrepreneurial drive and achievement as the highest-selling student at the event!



Lucas K (*Luxe LK*) **Harry B & Jonty M** (*Just Keep Rolling*)

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

AMANDA VON KANEL





Hunter P (*Penno Collections*)



Violet D (*Sweet Sketches*)

Year 9 Start Up: Learning from Industry

Today, our Year 9 Start Up students continued their entrepreneurial journey with an Industry Professional session.

Students pitched their business ideas and received valuable feedback from experienced business owners, helping them refine their concepts and identify opportunities to take their ventures further.

Year 8 BEE: Christmas Market

Our Year 8 BEE students are busy preparing for their Christmas Markets. Students have been developing products, planning their stalls and getting ready to bring their businesses to market.

Students in Years 4-11 are welcome to come along and support our young entrepreneurs on Tuesday 24 November, during Recess 2, outside the Café. Our business owners will be displaying their products and prices in the coming weeks!

Get Involved: Are you a business owner interested in mentoring or supporting our entrepreneurship programs? We would love to hear from you! Please contact **a.vonkanel@canterbury.qld.edu.au** to find out how you can get involved.



2026 LEAP Evening

View full photo gallery **here**.



FROM SENIOR SCHOOL TEACHER & HEAD OF SCIENCE FACULTY

NICK GILLIN



2026 Biology Camp





Last Thursday and Friday, our Year 11 Biology students travelled to Hastings Point, NSW, for Canterbury's annual Biology Camp.

The camp provided students with a valuable opportunity to engage in hands-on scientific learning within a unique ecological environment, while completing their required fieldwork hours and preparing for upcoming assessments. Across the two days, students explored a range of biological zones, taking part in activities across the rocky shore, sand dunes, and mangrove ecosystems.

Beyond the academic benefits, Biology Camp is also a memorable experience that brings students together and strengthens their connections as a cohort ahead of their summative Units 3 and 4 assessments.

But don't just take our word for it. Here's what some of the students had to say:

"From the sand dunes and rocky shore to kayaking through the mangroves, it was amazing spending time with others, gathering data, and learning about marine life and plants at Biology Camp."

"The practical work really helped me understand the theory we had talked about before coming."

"Mixing with the students in the other class made us feel like a big team."

"Looking past the surface of the beach and seeing hundreds of animals and species that I had never seen before, or had never noticed, was really fun."

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



RUBY SIMPSON: CLASS OF 2025

WRITTEN BY MADISON BARTON-HARRIS

For Class of 2025 alumna Ruby Simpson, her first year beyond Canterbury has been filled with new experiences, personal growth, and exciting steps towards her future career.

Ruby is currently studying a Bachelor of Paramedicine at the University of Southern Queensland (UniSQ), while also returning to Canterbury to work behind the scenes, giving her a new perspective on the College.

Like many recent graduates, Ruby has found the transition from school to university to be a significant adjustment, particularly when it comes to managing her own time.

"While the independence is refreshing, the biggest adjustment was managing my own schedule, rather than relying on a rigid weekly timetable," Ruby shared.

"Balancing academic demands, my work life, and social life has been a major learning curve but has fast-tracked my personal growth."

One of Ruby's biggest highlights this year has been completing her first on-road clinical placement, an experience that reinforced her passion for paramedicine.

"A year ago, I wouldn't have thought I would be where I am today in regard to my course, and that experience confirmed my passion for this career."

Reflecting on her time at Canterbury, Ruby credits her school experience with encouraging her to step outside her comfort zone and embrace opportunities she may otherwise have overlooked. She says this confidence has been particularly valuable as she navigates university and her clinical placement. Ruby has also developed a greater appreciation for the relationships and sense of community she experienced throughout her schooling.

As she continues her studies, Ruby remains grateful for the friendships, support network, and experiences that have helped shape her journey beyond Canterbury.



COMING UP NEXT

Ramsey Service Eat Up Sandwich Making Sessions
Monday 16 November - Wednesday 18 November

Studio Dance Recital
Monday 16 November

Loud Lunch at the Junior School
Tuesday 17 November

Year 12 Wet'n'Wild Excursion
Wednesday 18 November

Police Visit for Prep
Wednesday 18 November

Year 12 Alumni Hosted Graduation Breakfast
Thursday 19 November

Year 12 Final Chapel
Thursday 19 November

Year 12 Valedictory Dinner
Thursday 19 November

Year 12 Graduation and Guard of Honour Ceremony
Friday 20 November



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Canterbury College's 40th Annual Speech Night | **View More**

2026 Friday Night Rocks | **Photo Gallery**

Year 6 Celebration Evening I **View More**

Year 12 Reflection Day | **Photo Gallery**

Year 9 Outdoor Education | **Photo Gallery**

Junior School Spring Music Festival: Panorama | **View More**

Junior School Spring Music Festival: Kaleidoscope | **View More**

2027 Canterbury Dance Sign-Up: Updates + Uniform Orders | **Read More**

Deputy Principal Meagan King Recognised in The Educator Hot List 2026 | **View More**