



Cambridge High School

Teena Koutou,
Dear Parents / Caregivers,

I hope you all managed to catch your breath and take a break because there is a lot going on in Term 3 at CHS. We have assessments, winter tournament week, assessment week and student lead events like our Spirit week, haka competition and Arts week. All of this with only 12 and a half school weeks before our senior students leave for their NZQA exams.

And we are getting straight back into it with the following major events on over the next two weeks.

Cross Country

This is a reminder that the re-arranged School Cross-Country will take place on Friday 26th July 2024. This is a compulsory event for Juniors and optional for Senior students. Students may wear PE Gear or House Colours.

Seniors (year 11, 12 & 13) will run Period 4. This is optional. If seniors are not participating, they are expected in class.

Juniors (year 9 & 10) will run Period 5. This is compulsory for all students. Students will get changed and take their bags to their usual Period 5 class, teachers will take the junior roll and lock bags in their class.

For parents or caregivers wanting to support this event we recommend that you park on Taylor Street and support from as students will run past there as a part of the route.

Teacher Only Day 29 July

This is a Ministry of Education provided day to support the implementation of curriculum and assessments changes through the NCEA, with a particular emphasis on Level 1 changes.

Open Evening 8 August

Every year we showcase the fantastic opportunities available to students at CHS. Although this event is primarily directed at the incoming Year 8 students, I want to encourage you to pay us a visit. A lot has changed around here over the past few years, and I am proud of what we offer our community. This evening is a fantastic opportunity to come along and refresh your knowledge of what we offer here.

To support this evening, we will be closing the school 1:30pm. Please note that this is followed by a Teacher Only Day on Friday 9 August.

Student Leadership roles

We are so proud of the contribution that our students make to the life of CHS. They create fantastic events throughout the year and build wonderful connections and a sense of belonging amongst our students across the school. We wanted to let you know that we have started promoting the leadership roles for 2025. There are many ways students can look to get involved and we have increased the total number of roles available to recognise the big impact our students have. Please encourage your child to get involved either as a prefect, captain or member of a committee. It is a positive way to get involved in the life of CHS and makes a real difference to the experience of so many students across the year.



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Cell Phone Reminder

Thank you for your support with the ban of cell phones with National's "Away for the Day" campaign. We have noticed an improvement in the way students are interacting with each other during the day and their ability to focus on their learning in class. It is normally about this time when things are working well with teenagers, that we start to see them slip back into old habits. Please reinforce the message at home that the phones need to be away for the day. If they are used during class time, they will be confiscated. Students will then need to leave the phones in the SLT offices each day until they have completed an after school or Saturday detention. To avoid all that inconvenience, it really is best if they leave them at home or keep them in their bags.

Indoor Expectations

When it rains during breaks, we open up the hall, old gym and new gym for students and move our duty staff from outside to supervise these spaces. We also allow students into rooms when a teacher is present. These measures help provide a place for students to be, but to be perfectly honest, we struggle to provide sufficient supervised indoor spaces for our students during winter. We are planning for improvements on campus and will increase our covered area capacity as projects allow across the coming years. Until then, however, some of our indoor spaces are coming under pressure such as the library.

Although students are allowed in the library during break times, it is not a common room. We need to provide a space for our students that is quieter and enables students to read or complete their schoolwork. For this reason, there is to be no eating or playing of games in the library and laptops are to be used for work purposes only. We are aware that this will be a culture shift for some of our students and we will work on this throughout the term.

Olympics

Finally from me today, I want to wish everyone all the best over the next few weeks as we try to manage watching the Olympics and getting some sleep!

I will be particularly interested in the performance of our alumni.

Sam Gaze (mountain biking) – 29 July

Leila Walker (BMX) – begins 2 August

Devon Briggs (para track cycling) – from 28 August

Ngaa mihi ki a koutou,
Kind regards

Greg Thornton

Principal

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