



# Canterbury Tales

Where learning is innovative, inclusive and supportive

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**TERM 4 WEEK 3**

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

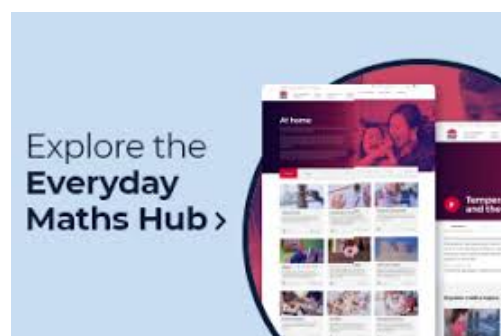
Two weeks into the 2020 HSC and I am pleased to report that all boys I have spoken to have been very happy with the papers they have sat. I know that in this difficult year my teachers have gone above and beyond what is expected and it is quite clear from the students' reactions after the exams that they have also prepared thoroughly for their exams.

Year 12 graduation plans are progressing nicely with this year being the first time we hold the ceremony outside. There are also a number of other points of difference, including the boys wearing academic gowns, the event being professionally filmed and streamed for family members who cannot make the ceremony. Can I please take this opportunity to remind families that in the unlikely event of rain, we will be moving the graduation into the library. Due to Covid restrictions this will mean that only one family member will be able to attend. Weather forecasts suggest a perfect Canterbury day so hopefully we will not have to cross this bridge.



The NSW Department of Education has just announced that in 2021 we will start the school year with two school development days, instead of the traditional one day at the start of the year. This means that students will not come back to school after the summer holidays

until Friday 29 January. We will communicate this again much closer to the time.



Earlier in the week I led a team of staff members, from across the school, to analyse our school's numeracy data. The purpose of this analysis is to help us make informed decisions on how we can achieve even better results in our next school plan. There is one area I would like to share with you. Canterbury Boys High School does a wonderful job of achieving student growth from year 7 to year 9. This result is not limited to Numeracy, but is also consistent across the four other domains. What this means is, that students improvement from years 7 to 9 far exceeds what is expected. In fact, we outperform most schools in our local area and also the State. This is an amazing result that we all should feel very proud of. The NSW Department of Education has put together a fantastic resource for parents. Maths is used every day in almost everything we do. Parents and carers can support their child's mathematical skills and understanding with a range of fun, practical and creative activities. Encourage your child to observe maths at work, around the home and put their skills to use with the fun indoor activities. Parents ask me all the time what can they do to support their child's learning at home. Here is a fantastic resource every parent should be aware of.

Link: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/mathematics/domain?wcmmode=disabled>



## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

On Tuesday 20 October, College students came back to school to commence HSC exams, following strict COVID-19 guidelines. Students were individually asked if they were well and symptom free. They have now completed two weeks of the HSC exams. Despite the difficulties this year has presented, our students have been calm and ready for their exams. I would like to wish our College students all the best for the remaining two weeks of HSC examinations.

The Department of Education has released updated COVID-19 guidelines for Term 4. This has seen the return of excursions and field trips. The Stage 5 Year Advisers have taken this opportunity to organise an excursion on Friday, 6 November to Jamberoo Recreation Park. Our RAISE mentor group will also be attending an excursion to Sydney Airport later in the term.

Unfortunately, parents and carers are still only permitted to visit the school site for the purposes of essential meetings to discuss welfare matters and for picking up their child if they are unwell. Consequently, the year 7-10 Parent Teacher Night will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, 10 November. Your son's semester 2 report will be sent home with him on this day. Please ask your son to make appointments with the teachers you would like to meet and they will then email you their Zoom invitation on Monday, 9 November. Alternatively, you may ask for a phone interview and your son's teachers will contact you in the next few weeks. If you have any questions about this process please do not hesitate to contact the school.

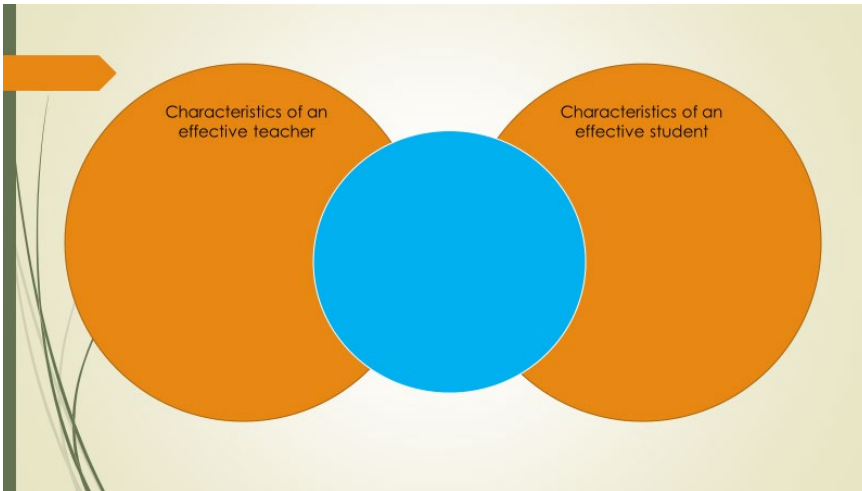
On Friday, 13 November Canterbury Boys will be having its annual *Cantervale* celebration. Of course, due to COVID, it will be a little different this year and only CBHS students can attend. The theme of the day is 'Black Friday' and we encourage students to get involved and wear black on the day. It will be a celebration to mark the end of what has been a very different year in education and we hope that students



embrace the opportunity and have a fun day. When the students return on Monday, 16 November they will begin the new academic year. The boys will be issued with their new timetables and classes and begin the curriculum content of the next school year. This is extremely important

for our year 10 students who will become College students and begin their HSC path.

As part of the Wellbeing and Behaviour Policy review, students were surveyed about what they understood and thought about these policies. One of the survey questions was 'classroom rules need to be changed.' The results revealed that 47% of students felt that the classroom rules needed to be changed.



Over the last two weeks the students have been given the opportunity to discuss with each other and teachers, what rules they think are necessary for effective teaching and learning. Students worked in groups to consider effective teaching and the characteristics that teachers have that help them to achieve their best. They were then asked to consider effective learners and were given the opportunity to reflect on times when they have learnt the best and the

characteristics they were displaying when this learning was occurring. Following this, the students were asked to compare the qualities of effective teachers and effective learners and there was no surprise that the boys found that there were many characteristics that were similar to both. Characteristics like, being organised, being polite, being respectful, being prepared and being focused. The students then brainstormed what they thought an effective learning environment looked like and from there they developed the top 10 rules they think will ensure that effective learning is occurring in classrooms.

Student voice is students actively participating in decision-making at school on things which shape their educational experiences. The benefits of listening to and acting on student voice include:

- increasing students' engagement in learning
- encouraging collaboration between students and their teachers
- creating and maintaining a positive environment and culture
- building respectful relationships, connections and belonging
- developing personal and social capabilities.

The teachers that worked with the students in their groups were very impressed by how seriously the boys took the activities. They were involved in very robust conversations about what makes for effective teaching and learning. Students have voiced their perspective about the classroom rules and the review team will analyse the data to produce new classroom rules that will be implemented in 2021.

## **CHANGES TO SCHOOL BUS TIMETABLE**



Transit Systems have issued new bus timetables effective October 26 2020. Please note changes to these morning school specials:

415 and 632s to operate 3 minutes earlier

628s to operate 4 minutes earlier

565s to operate 5 minutes earlier

487s to operate 6 minutes earlier



## **ENGLISH FACULTY**

During Term 4, students in English across all of the year groups are focusing on writing. One of the aims in English is to create a variety of opportunities for our students to build on their skills as writers.

Year 7 is focused on writing creatively. Teachers are concentrating building on their students understanding of narrative structure and on embedding themes into their work.

Year 8 is working on writing persuasively. Student are exploring persuasive techniques in text and creating advertisements, speeches and letters to the editor. Their aim is to encourage the reader to change their perspective and respond differently.

Year 9 is working on writing science-fiction by learning about the features of the genre and building skills as writers. The aim is to create imaginative worlds and curious creatures that seem realistic and relatable.

Year 10 are taking a writing expedition into the world of suspense by crafting tales of the unexpected. Students are learning to manipulate writing techniques and build tension and craft a piece of highly engaging writing.

Ask your sons to show you how their work is developing and give them some encouragement! CBHS might be in the process of creating the next best-selling Australian author.

### **Book Week 2020**

As part of Canterbury Boys High School's Book Week celebrations, our students were asked to write their thoughts on what this year's theme, Curious Creatures, Wild Minds, means to them as readers. Samir Issa's exploration of this theme was too good not to share:

We are all curious creatures with wild minds. When we read, we show our curiosity for something. We want to find more out than what the front cover gives us. We dig deeper and deeper, our minds turning wild the further we rear. Until we reach the end. We then realise our curiosity has led us to all the information the book has given, but we still want more. We find another book our wild minds have led us towards, and the cycle continues.

Our curiosity and our wild minds lead us to many books of all different genres. The more we read, the more curious and wild we go. We relate to the main character to ourselves. We feel like we are in the book feeling what the characters are feeling. But at the end of it all, we aren't really in the book, we are just all curious creatures with wild minds.







## School Travel Applications are now open for 2021

Applications for student travel in 2021 open from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).



Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

*\*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.*

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

### New Concession Entitlement Cards

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over).
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older).

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at:

<https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>



## Pre-apprenticeship Courses for HSC School Leavers

With the help of the Australian government a new training initiative has been introduced to assist HSC School leavers enter employment.

Apprenticeships Are Us in conjunction with **LEAP** & My Trade start are offering pre-employment training programs in numerous industry sectors such as **construction, community services, hospitality, retail, business, warehousing & automotive.**

Training involves a combination of theory and practical work that runs over one week.

To enrol in a course, email – [info@mytradestart.com.au](mailto:info@mytradestart.com.au) or if you have questions please contact Charlie Le on (02) 9891 6900 or 0436 021 905.



## Volunteer positions at Radio Station 2RDJ-FM

For Year 12 HSC Leavers who are interested in a career in the media, a number of volunteer positions are available at Community Radio Station 2RDJ-FM in Burwood.

Volunteers will gain practical hands on experience in a radio station and will be allocated one weekday morning to present the breakfast program. Training for presenters will be provided. Presenters will also be allowed to present their choice of community content and music.

There are also volunteering opportunities for students in Years 7-11 during afternoon shifts and weekends.

Applications to be a volunteer member of 2RDJ can be made at [www.radio2rdj.com](http://www.radio2rdj.com). Please contact Jason Kerr, Programming Coordinator, on 0438 650 497 for more information.





## Scholarships with LandSurveys



LandSurveys is a leading national surveying company offering Scholarships to both TAFE and University students enrolled in recognised Spatial Sciences courses.

Scholarship winners will be awarded a total of \$4,000 over the two year program. Scholarship winners may have the opportunity to undertake paid work experience with Land Surveys during the 2021 and the 2022 semester breaks. In addition to the scholarship, winners may also be offered employment as a graduate on completion of their studies.

For more information please contact Human Resources: [scholarship@landsurveys.net.au](mailto:scholarship@landsurveys.net.au)



Do you have a question for the Principal?

Is there anything you want to know?

Please email the school and we will publish all questions and answers in the newsletter, for all parents and guardians to read.

[canterburb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:canterburb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)