Welcome back to all our families and students. Currently we have 630 students enrolled for the year. We have waiting lists for years 10 and 11 with a large number of new students who have moved into year 10 and 11 from private schools. It has been a great start to the year with students returning keen and ready to start their academic year. We look forward to success for all our students in 2007 whether it be academic performance, instrumental, sport, dance, choir, debating or many of the other opportunities afforded every student.

**STAFF CHANGES**

Rachel Coleman joins the HSIE staff.
Jana Mawassi joins the ESL and HSIE staff.
Liza Moodie joins the Maths faculty.
Helen Lee was transferred late in the year to St George Girls High. Ms Lee gave 21 years of her working life to the girls of CGHS and will be fondly remembered for her fantastic Environmental work, establishment of Duke of Edinburgh program, her contribution to Technology and her keenness to pass on the skills associated with Tai Chi to our girls. As well as being a passionate Science teacher Helen was farewelled by students on the 2/2/07.

John Chou of the Maths faculty has also moved on to a new challenge. We wish him all the best.

Chris Nay finishes up next week after 20 years at Canterbury Girls. Chris was also farewelled by students at an assembly on the 2/2/07. Chris has been nominated by the Parents and Citizens association for a National Excellence in teaching Award.

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**Student Lockers - Year 8 can have access to hiring a new locker as of Monday 12.2.07- available through Office C.**

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**Congratulations to:-**

- Gabbie Craven, year 9, who has been selected in the NSW Millennium Marching Band. Well done Gabbie!
- Vincenzina Criniti, year 11, who came first in Italian in the Distance Education Course for the School Certificate 2006.
- Well done to the P & C and in particular Mr Banks, for suggesting to Canterbury Council a change to parking in Church Street. There is now 32 metres of 5 minute parking for parents!

**HSC students 2006** had overwhelming success with exceptional HSC results.
* University placement has been offered to 60% of year 12.
* 173 High Performance Bands from 60% of students.
* 20% UAI 86 or more (16% over 90)
* Exceptional results in Maths, English, Biology, Chemistry, Legal and Business Studies.
* 90% of girls undertaking extension Maths courses achieved a top band result.

**Trivia Question for this edition**

Which female member of staff finished just behind Shane Gould in the COLE Classic swimming event on Sunday 4/2/07 at Manly?

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**INFORMATION NIGHT**

**FOR YEAR 7, 2008**

**TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY, 2007**

5.30-7.30 p.m. in the SCHOOL LIBRARY

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**INSERTS**

- Sport Options 2007
- Canteen Ordering
The Summer season commences in Week 2 and continues until Week 9 of Term 1 and will then recommence in Week 8 of Term 3 and finish at the end of the year. The Winter season begins in Week 9 Term 1 and continues until Week 7 Term 3.

Sport at Canterbury Girls' High occurs on Wednesday afternoons where students may choose to participate in Grade or Non-Grade Sport. Grade sport is a competition against other schools in the St. George Zone. It usually runs on a 'home and away' basis. If a home game is played at School or at a local venue within walking distance from the School, students may be dismissed from these venues no earlier than 2:30pm. Grade Sport commences at the beginning of lunch (12:20pm) rather than at the end of lunch (1:19pm). On the 'away' games and games played outside of the local area, teams will be transported to and from the venue by school bus with teacher supervision at a cost of $50 per season, returning to the school at approximately 2:47pm.

Sport at CGHS is compulsory and a student failing to accumulate the required 400 hours across years 7-10 puts herself at risk of not receiving her School Certificate (Years 9&10) or Preliminary Certificate (Year 11).

Non-Grade Sport for Years 7 - 11 is held at the School or within walking distance. When students are walking to the venue, staff will be at checkpoints along the way. At the completion of sport (2:47pm) students will be dismissed from the sporting venue and will make their own way home, without the supervision of a teacher.

In the event of wet or extreme weather, the students will be notified by 12noon and they are to report to their allocated wet weather room where they will participate in Sport Theory until the normal Sport dismissal time of 2:47pm.

Local Churches - Touch Tournament

On Saturday 3rd February a group of our students played in a Touch Football Competition.

Teams were mixed and girls involved were Samantha Chapman, Roana Maiva, Adi Mere Tokalaulevu and Jacinda Singh.

It was a hot day, down at Wills Ground, Canterbury but the soft drinks and sausage sizzle kept us energised. I was very pleased to see girls from our school taking part in active sporting activities on the weekend. I was able to make contact with the Girls Rugby Manager. If any student (former or current) is interested in girls rugby please contact me, at school.

I look forward to seeing lots more students being involved regularly on weekend sport.

Judy Playfair
Sports Organiser-Grade and House

Claim the Date

School Photo Day
Thursday 15.3.07

Envelopes with costs will be issued over the next week to give families plenty of time to plan for the cost.
Prices and options will range from $5-$40
DRAMA
This year, the English/Drama Department is doing something exciting and new. We are offering senior Drama students the opportunity to take up a subscription for Company B’s (Belvoir Street Theatre) 2007 theatre program.

The subscription includes four exciting performances throughout the year, including appearances by Geoffrey Rush and Leah Purcell, direction by Welsey Enoch and Neil Armfield, and plays by Edward Albee and Michael Gow.

This wonderful offer presents theatre at extremely reduced rates and gives our students a chance to see theatre at its best. This, in turn, will greatly enhance students’ understanding of the subject at the HSC level.

Also, after the stunning success of our senior Theatre Sports team in 2006, we will be entering two teams in the regional and state Theatre Sports Competition. The competition now has a junior and senior level and will begin in Term 2. Students will be notified during term one about auditions for the teams.

Year 9 students can look forward to a performance of "Lovers and Rebels" an outstanding presentation based on Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet on 17th May.

The wonderful performance poet Tug Dumbly will inspire Year 7 in August.

All in all, 2007 looks like being a challenging and exciting year, filled with drama of all shapes and sizes.

K. Strachan ~ Drama teacher
Our range of welfare strategies and programs which support students to succeed in their learning will continue this year thanks to the commitment and dedication of all staff, particularly the Year Advisors and Assistants from the Welfare Team and SRC, Prefects and International Students Coordinators, as well as the School Counsellor and Careers Adviser.

**Year Advisers**

Year Advisers this week have lead the staff welcome back to all students and assisted in the settling in process for Year 7 and other new students. Families and students are reminded the Year Adviser is usually the best person to contact about any concerns at school. The YA will refer you to other members of the welfare team if needed.

**Academic Achievers Assembly – Welcome to Year 7**

On February 22nd our major special assembly for Term 1 celebrating 2006 academic achievement and HSC high achievers will be held. This assembly also is a time to welcome Year 7 to the Canterbury Girls HS community.

**Student Handbook and Student Diary**

Our range of Student Welfare Programs is outlined in detail on our school website and in the newly published Student Handbook issued to all students in week 1. The Student Diary also contains important information which Year Advisers, Deputies and Class Teachers will constantly refer to. It is important the Student Handbook is kept safely at home for reference, while the Student Diary must be brought to school daily and used constantly to support success at school.

**Year Meetings and Year Camps**

A new initiative this year will see each Year group have scheduled Year Meetings twice per term to allow important information and messages about attendance, behaviour and learning expectations to be effectively passed on to students regularly. The Year Meetings will be an opportunity to acknowledge achievement of individual students in the merit program, as well as excellence in attendance. Students should have the opportunity to attend a Year Camp at least twice over their six years at Canterbury, in addition to the annual Year Picnic.

**Blue Card Merit System**

There are some changes to the Blue Card Merit System which start this year. Year Advisers will make sure students are informed of these changes and details are in the Student Handbook as well. Most significantly, for students to be invited to attend the annual Term 4 Year Picnic, they must have attained a certain level in the Blue Card system this year.

**Year 7 Mentoring**

Over the first five weeks of Term 1 Year 7 will complete a series of workshops run by trained Years 9 and 10 mentors. These sessions will cover settling into learning at high school, friendship and positive relationships, anti-bullying and coping skills. This program is developed in partnership with NSW Health using a kit called Mind Matters, which is all about promoting good mental health and resilience in young people.

**Support Programs**

PERX (Pacific Education Resource Exchange), Links to Learning and LEAPS (Lawyers Encouraging and Assisting Promising Students) will continue in 2007. You will find articles in future editions of the newsletter about these activities. We focus especially on providing support to Year 9 through LINKS and LEAPS to maintain engagement in school.

**Ted Noffs Counselling**

An extra half day per week of counselling time is provided through this program. Sofia Lopez works on Friday mornings from the counsellor's office. She sees students individually and also runs group skills sessions to provide information and strategies for a healthy lifestyle. Students should look for the information posters around the school to find out more details and how to see Sofia.

**Learning Support, Learning Centre & Study Skills**

The services of the STL (Support Teacher Learning), ESL (English as a Second Language), and the Careers Adviser are the core of the Learning Support Team. Students with learning needs are targeted for support in class, small group withdrawal and in programs addressing specific needs. The Learning Centre, located in the Library, is the key for success in senior studies for all students. Our whole school study skills program begins in Year 7 when mentors assist Year 7 to adjust to the different aspects of high school learning. Use of the Student Diary is an essential part of developing high school study skills in Stage 4. As students progress into Stage 5 and 6 formal study skills training for senior exams and assessment tasks is provided, as well as support for students to meet Board of Studies course requirements.
Attendance

As a final note to this 2007 introduction to our student welfare programs, the importance of attendance every day needs to be emphasized. Only through regular attendance can you achieve a continuous program of learning. All students must attend school every day the school is open. Leave can only be granted if you are too sick to come to school, or for urgent family reasons. A doctor’s certificate should be provided for absences wherever possible and always when it is more than 3 days. Parents and families are asked to take note of attendance expectations and support us in developing good habits and punctuality. Lateness is not acceptable. Please see the relevant sections in the Student Handbook and always contact the Year Adviser for assistance and advice if your daughter is showing any signs of reluctance about coming to school. If we act early students usually get back into good attendance habits, but if it is let go for too long new habits take over and it is hard to get back into the school routine. Where necessary we can ask the region’s Home School Liaison Officer to work with a student and their family to get back to school. Finishing school and gaining a qualification is the best way young people can prepare for future learning and work pathways.

Julie Ronayne,
Head Teacher Student Welfare

CGHS Swimming Carnival

The 2007 Swimming Carnival will be held at Canterbury Aquatic Centre on Friday 16th February and is sure to be as exciting as last year with many records which have stood for over twenty years at risk of being broken. Every student is expected to attend and can contribute in a number of ways. There will be the traditional events for our super swimmers, novelties for the not-so-super swimmers and of course the cheer squads will be trying to out chant each other. Twenty bonus points will be awarded for the best House war cry, which has influenced the overall result of the carnival in the past and may do so again.

Should the weather be inclement an announcement will be put on the school answering machine from 7am to inform all in case the carnival will be cancelled.

We need every student, as well as all parents or guardians who are able, to attend and witness the staff try to regain some dignity after a poor showing in 2006. The tightly contested staff vs students events have seen a clean sweep of both the swimming and soccer by the students in 2006. Those who witnessed the staff vs students indoor soccer (FUTSAL) match in the last week of last term saw an exciting see-sawing game where students were able to take out the title with an 11-9 win. Great excitement was created when our star footballer Olympia Avramidis (Yr 12) created opportunity after opportunity with much help from her fellow Open Football team mates which included Zeinab Choucair (Yr 12), Ninette Dahan (Yr 12) and Eleni Danis (Yr 12) in goals. It has to be said the junior players were also holding their own and demonstrated the potential our future football teams will have. The spectators also witnessed some exceptional acrobatics from Mr Fitzgerald who managed to score 5 goals himself. He was assisted by the speedy duo of Mr Chou and Mr Adamson and the super fit Ms Delmas who played solidly throughout the game.

Students may well be feeling confident of another whitewash in 2007, only time will tell, so don’t miss out on the first leg of this student vs staff competition at the swimming carnival on Friday. I look forward to seeing you all there.

K. Burgess
Carnival Organiser
**SWIMSWIM**

Water Safety is important for everyone – from children to adults. NSW Department of Sport and Recreation will be holding Women Only Swimming lessons and leisure swimming at Roselands Swimming Pool beginning in February 2007.

All women and girls welcome from age 4½ years upwards, with all female staff and in a fully private environment.

**Learn to swim**

Sundays 11th February to 1st April, 2007 at 9:10 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. OR 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Cost: $58 (4½ - 14 years) OR $76.20 (15 years +)

**Leisure swimming**

Sundays 11th February - 1st April, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Cost: $35 (4½ years +)

Roselands Aquatic Centre
Opposite Roselands Shopping Centre
For all bookings contact NSW Sport & Recreation on 13 13 02

**WOMENS’ INFORMATION SEMINAR**

Our first seminar for the year will be held on Wednesday 21st March, at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Guest Speaker: Jeannette Holloway from Bankstown Area Health Service.

Topic: Breast Screening

All welcome; child care provided; morning tea also provided.

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**Knockout Sport**

2007 promises to be a competitive year on the sporting field for Canterbury Girls High with a record 10 teams entered in Knockout competitions throughout the Sydney Metropolitan region. The sports entered include basketball (both at the under 15 and open level), hockey, netball, touch football, soccer, volleyball, softball, tennis and for the first time ever lawn bowls.

The Knockout competition involves schools from all over the Sydney region playing in a particular sporting competition. The winning team of each game played progresses to the next round but the losing team is ‘knocked out’ of the competition until next year.

*All interested students from year 7 - 12 are able to try out for any of the Knockout teams with the final team being picked by the Knockout coach for that sport based on students performance in the tryouts.*

The first rounds for volleyball, touch football, softball and tennis will be played this month, with open basketball, lawn bowls, netball and soccer scheduled for March. Hockey is scheduled to be played in late April while our keen under 15 basketballers will have to wait until August for their turn.

Tryout and meeting times will be announced in the Daily Notices during roll call so listen carefully so you don’t miss out. Good luck.

*J. Delmas-Knockout Sport CoOrdinator*

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Staff warming up for the Student V’s Staff Soccer Game in the last week of 2006

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Environmental Ambassadors preparing to present at the 2006 UNSW Sustainability Challenge