



Cambridge High School

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Teena koutou ki te whaanau o taatou kura,

It has been a great week around campus this week. Our cherry blossoms are in full bloom, the house haka event was incredible, showcasing the growth in haka across CHS, and our senior students have put on a fantastic Spirit Week with something fun for students of all ages. Our senior students have been finishing off their practical work and receiving their Derived Grade results, with plenty of advice from staff about where to improve before the final NCEA exams next term. In this communication home I want to bring a few significant events to your attention:

- Sports and Arts badges and ties.
- Student leadership opportunities and voting.
- Exam feedback, including co-requisites for Year 11.
- Senior Prizegiving and final assemblies.
- Summer uniform.

Sports and Arts badges and ties

On Wednesday we had a formal assembly to celebrate the success of our students in the Arts and Sports this year. It was fantastic to be able to acknowledge the regional and national success of so many of our students. We were able to include the success from our winter season and tournament week, national and international representation. For the full details of this success please visit our [website](#), where I have shared the assembly script. During the assembly we presented badges and ties to our students in recognition of this success. The full criterion for receiving these accolades is listed on the Sports and Arts section of our website. If you feel that we have missed student success that meets this criteria, please get in touch with us and we will find a time to acknowledge them before the end of the year.

I want to congratulate the students who took part in the winter tournament week around the country. I have received a lot of really positive feedback from our staff involved about how fantastic the students were, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and representing the school and our community well through the upholding the REACH values. I also want to thank our parents who coached, fed, drove and supported our students throughout the week. It is a highlight of the year for many of our players and I appreciate the contribution of staff and community in providing this opportunity for our students.

Student leadership opportunities and voting.

Next term students will be voting for the student leaders in 2025. I have said many times how proud I am of the contribution our students make to the life of CHS. When we reviewed our system this year we also recognised the significant demand this can place on them and, as a result, we have decided to increase our leadership positions to distribute this load across more students. This means that for 2025 we will have the four Head Students and one student rep on the school Board. In addition to this there will be House Prefects (who lead their houses and work with the House Captains to be create the best house spirit possible) and School Prefects (who co-chair the following committees: Belonging and Connections, Academic, Sports, Arts, Senior Celebrations and Community and Sustainability). By separating out the School and House Prefect roles we will create more opportunity for our senior students to contribute to life at CHS.



Cambridge High School

Exam feedback, including co-requisites for Year 11.

I want to acknowledge the hard work from my staff in preparing students, bringing together the exams and providing feedback to our students in advance of the holidays. It is a big undertaking that really helps the students address gaps in their learning prior to sitting the final exams. I also wanted to acknowledge the attitude of our Year 10 and 11 students when preparing for and sitting the literacy and numeracy assessments. Staff have been hugely complimentary of their approach to these significant exams and determination to perform at their best.

Senior Prizegiving and final assemblies.

Next term we begin the process of wrapping up the year, celebrating the success of our senior students with a range of assemblies. We will have a final assembly for each House, the full school, Sports, Arts and Maaori Celebration evening, Year 13 graduation and our Senior Prizegiving.

Last year we moved the Senior Prizegiving to the gym and the change in venue really helped lift the occasion. I want to encourage you to put it in your calendar now, as it is one of those important school events. Join us for a fantastic evening, celebrating the success of our students. It is a night of high-quality student performances, acknowledgement of success and a real sense of achievement for our community.

Summer uniform.

As the days lengthen, daylight savings starts and we look to better weather next term, our students will also return in summer uniform. Have a look at our [website](#) to see what this means as I know that many of you will need to buy new items over the next couple of weeks. If you are unable to get the item in time for the start of term, please wear winter uniform or approach the Deans for a uniform pass. A couple of things that we need to remember, especially with sandal wearing for our summer uniform. Firstly, following a review, the Board agreed to amend the rules around sandals so that a wider variety could be worn. They still need to be plain black or brown 'roman style' sandals with a strap over the front of the foot, a back strap, have black or silver buckles and be flat soled. The other part to remember is that students must wear shoes to take part in Science and Technology learning, for Health and Safety reasons.

Finally from me today, I want to thank the many volunteers who have made our winter sport happen this year. It is so important for our students' development and an integral part of our vision for holistic learning. We celebrated the pinnacle of student achievement in assembly this week and I also want to acknowledge the high rates of participation at CHS as some of the highest in the Waikato. I have been involved with a couple of football teams this year and the growth I have seen in these players across the season as players and people is fantastic. That is largely due to the support that staff and parents from our community have provided across the winter. Ngaa mihi nunui ki a koutou.

Have a great break everyone and we'll see you again in a few weeks' time.

Ngaa mihi

Kind regards

Greg Thornton

Principal