

formed the wall surface - inner beauty and drama revealed, within individual stones otherwise anonymous, worn smooth over thousands of years by the flow of water and rubbing against each other. People should be the same - smoothed out through rubbing along with others, and keeping their inner structure hidden until broken out for a meaningful purpose. When it is it can be useful, even enjoyable - but unless done with care and skill, better left hidden.

During an appraisal interview recently, the other side of 'individualisation' was discussed - whether attempting to differentiate the learning experience to a high degree with a focus on measured outcomes was, whilst academically self-evidently valuable, philosophically desirable. The staff member involved, who is at the forefront of digitally supported learning, commented that the value to him was less in the measured outcomes, but in the enhanced knowledge of the individual and his learning circumstances. Progress, then, is as ever about connection and engagement; individualised learning is not 'new'; those who think it is, perhaps were not doing a particularly impressive job previously.

Last weekend Jane and I attended the CCOBA event in Auckland, kindly hosted by Stephen and Margaret Gilbert. It was a delight to meet up with so many friends of the College once more, and we look forward to the 40 Year On reunion shortly. It meant we were unable to be at the last 1st XV match of what has been a testing season, but am pleased it went well. I have been very grateful for those who have contributed constructively to the review of our rugby programme, and

some recommendations have been made which are being considered internally and urgently. The recent tragic air show accident in the UK, was on a road I know very well indeed. In the early shots on the TV one could glimpse a view of the chapel of nearby Lancing College - a magnificent, almost cathedral-like, building standing alone in the school's wonderful rolling parkland setting. Lancing is a prominent school in the south of England, distinctive in a number of ways. They don't play rugby being one of them. We are determined to maximise our opportunities, and to interrogate the underlying motivations behind the energetic discussions of this term. Having enjoyed a ride in a lift with (not many) of the Taranaki Bulls last weekend, there is the inescapable reality that rugby is a contact sport where kilos count! Our players have given their all this year, and their achievements are significant.

As this newsletter is published I am en route to Malaysia for a week, where a new school year is beginning. The last two weeks back in Christchurch see us out every night, including The Black and White Ball on 11th. Preparations are well in hand, and I am sure will be another great occasion. Two of the other nights out are at the ReACTION House Drama Festival, on 10th and 16th of September. Please don't miss these evenings - they are for the boys, by the boys, and always hugely entertaining. Over the years we have been treated to some remarkable drama; the best has been of major production standard, and all the product of hard work and creativity. ISO(P14 (v)10 TJ.9 (ear)5o01

Latest News & Events

Click on the photos below to read the full story then click the go back arrow in your browser to return to In Black & White.



Farewell to The Oxford Scholars

The Oxford Scholars will leave College this Friday 28 August after a one month stay. It has been a busy schedule with weekly concerts at College...

This is the start of what is hoped will be a long and productive exchange between Christ's College and a German school called Gymnasium am Moltkeplatz...

Curriculum News

As you read this senior trial examinations have been completed, and boys will be progressively receiving their marked examination papers back from teachers. At the risk of being as repetitive as a cracked record (does that simile still make sense?) these papers are pure gold (a simile and a metaphor in the same sentence, it must be Sunday night as I write this). The single biggest mistake people make when revising for examinations is to revise the material that they know already. These papers provide an outstanding catalogue of things that each boy doesn't know. They are by definition completely individualised, and will be comprehensive, as each paper will have completely assessed a specific achievement standard.

Each boy ought to receive feedback for each of his papers, but of course this feedback will do nothing at all for any boy's achievement if he does not act on it. You may find it useful to discuss examination results with your son(s). I don't recommend finger pointing, rather simple conversations that show interest and pose questions. Please also remember that the same applies to any assessment task in any year group. So boys in Years 9 and 10 should be just as alert to the opportunities that tests and assignments present upon return.

This all begs the question of how best to learn content. I would almost bet money that many boys will find that they simply have gaps in their content knowledge. Our examination system emphasises thinking, but you have no doubt read my words many times now - we can't think in a vacuum. We need to have information on which to base thinking. There are some very powerful techniques and I was fascinated by how I automatically fell into several of these when expected to learn content for a coming examination myself. I followed three steps.

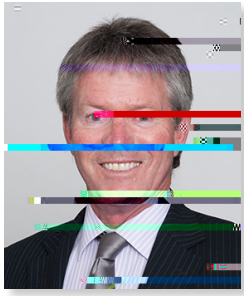
I began by 'chunking' the information I needed to know. That is, I broke it down into bite sized pieces.

I then created a mind map representation of the important information for each 'chunk'. A mind map is a very powerful visual representation of information that requires an understanding of inter-relationships if it is to be accurate.

I then used the old tried and true technique of req 180 >>BDC



Careers



University Halls / Colleges applications

Most boys have applied to their preferred Universities for a position in a College / Hall. They should do this by 7 September, to allow Housemasters to complete the confidential reference form before 15 September. When they apply for their Common Confidential

Reference Form - (ccrf) they can indicate on that, the different universities they are applying for.

and students are encouraged to check out, www.studylink.govt.nz. The sooner students complete the Sussed Online too4.1 (ts ar)9.

Course Planning Sessions

These have started this week and allow students to clarify their courses for 2016. Courses are the subjects or papers they will study. Most students will take 7 or 8 courses, spread over the two semesters. Most boys have had a planning session with Mr Sellars and understand this. The liaison staff are here to tune and check their choices.

Education USA Information Session, 30 August

We are hosting at College, an information session with representatives from Columbia, Duke, Georgetown, Northwestern and Princeton. Sunday, August 30, Chapman Room, Christ's College, 4.00 - 6.00pm. Advanced registration is required and space is limited for the programme. register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/us-universities-information-session-tickets-18047689124>

Education USA Information Session, 16 September

The U.S. Embassy are touring around New Zealand with admissions representatives from 10 American universities conducting "mini fairs". These are informal fairs and last approximately 45 minutes. They will be at College on this date. The universities are: Arizona, Indiana, New York, Missouri, Savannah College of Art & Design, Foothill De-Anza College, Yale, University of Southern California. There will also be a Compliance Officer from a Big 10 University to talk about sport scholarships. Names of interested boys to be given to Mr Sellars.

Lincoln University Global Challenges Scholarships

Feed the world, protect the future, live well: they're Lincoln University's causes - a response to the global challenges facing the planet today. This includes climate change, food production and security, depleting resources, urban sprawl, the loss of biodiversity, and pollution. These scholarships are for those who want to play a part in making a difference, who understand the problem and want to be part of the solution. Apply for the scholarship through the application system, MyLinc, when you apply to study at Lincoln.

Sussed - Study Link

Students thinking about further study after they leave school have a lot of choices to make. Sussed Online is a great way to get thinking about what it will cost to live and study. Parents

Careers Continued...

Events since the last issue:

- CPIT Year 10 Challenge
- Lincoln University liaison visit
- Media Design School Auckland Open Day
- University of Melbourne Open Day

Upcoming careers dates:

- 25 Aug** - University of Auckland Scholarship applications close
- 26 Aug** - University of Canterbury Course planning, 2.45pm
- 26 Aug** - University of Otago Course planning, 2.45pm
- 27 Aug** - CPIT, Open Day & Industry Expo, 2.00-5.00pm, Madras Street
- 27 Aug** - BCITO, Big Constructon Tour (selected students)
- 28 Aug** - Study @ Victoria University Day, Wellington
- 29 Aug** - University of Auckland Open Day
- 30 Aug** - American Universities Information session at College - 4.00pm
- 31 Aug** - Applications for teacher education programmes 2016 required
- 31 Aug** - Lincoln University, closing date for Sports Scholarships and Excellence Scholarship
- 31 Aug** - Lincoln University, closing date for Future Leaders Scholarship
- 1 Sep** - Application deadline for CPIT's Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Radiography)
- 1 Sep** - AUT Scholarship applications close. www.aut.ac.nz
- 9 Sep** -