Term 4 2010

Welcome to Term 4 - for our senior school students this is exam term with Cambridge exams beginning in the first week. Please pray for our students over the exam period: may God grant them results that reflect their faithfulness in study and God's grace.

But spring also brings warmer weather, with the Primary class planting out their garden and our re-grassed field finally open for play. We also welcome one new family to our primary class.

Please note that places for next year are filling up fast - if you know of anyone wanting to enrol encourage them to file their applications as soon as possible.

One other reminder: prompt payment discounts apply to fees paid by 3:00 pm on the first day of term: after that the discount is reversed and because of the new GST rate, invoices for late payments will be at 15% GST.

Staff Training 4-5 October Staff met for two days over the holidays for inservice training (professional development). We worked through the first of 10 recorded seminars with Paul Tripp entitled, Your Christian School: A Culture of Grace? looking at ways we can encourage staff and student dependence on God's grace. We also looked at key curriculum development in the school and began the last phase of linking our standards to the Cambridge Curriculum.

School opens 11 October As usual this is a 10 week term, but Secondary students finish earlier: Senior College students finish classes once their exams are completed, and Junior College students finish classes at the end of week 9, but all students are still required to attend the Final Assembly in week 10.

Class Photos issued 11 October Photos (taken last term) are to be sent home today: please either purchase (by sending money in the envelope) or return the photo if not wanted, by Friday 15 October.

School Assemblies 12 October. 2 November We hold a school assembly on the first Tuesday of each month when the whole school gets together to enhance the corporate life of the school through music, Bible study and recognising student achievement with a variety of awards.

CIE Exams begin 13 October Students have been issued with their timetables for Cambridge International Examinations - these bring their courses for this year to a close. These exams end 19 November.

Labour Day Holiday 25 October School is closed for the day.

ICSF Principals Meeting 28 October We regularly meet with the Principals of other schools in the *Independent Christian Schools Fellowship* to exchange news, encourage commitment to biblical-Christian education, consider our interaction with the authorities and plan mutual training. This term's meeting sis at Manukau Christian School.

ISNZ Meeting 11 November We also meet once a year with leaders from the *Independent Schools Association of New Zealand*. Carey College has never been a member of this group, but we are considering associate membership. Although their perspective does not always mesh with ours, we have appreciated their willingness to liaise with schools like ours and to work together to influence government to respect and uphold the right of parents to choose an education different from what the state offers.

TIMSS Testing for Year 9 6 December At the request of the Ministry of Education, we are taking part in *The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study* (TIMSS). Our Year 9 students will sit a range of tests this week along with students from throughout New Zealand - and in over 60 other countries. The results form the survey (conducted every 4 years) give information on the overall quality of teaching in science and mathematics on a national basis - and will give important feedback on our own courses.

Secondary School closes 10 December Senior college students finish once their external and internal exams have been completed. Junior college students (years 9 & 10) finish school at mid-day 10 December.

Final Assembly 16 December This highlight of our school year involves reviewing the schools courses and recognising outstanding student achievement. Keep the evening free and bring your friends!

Reports are issued for Secondary students at the Final Assembly, and for Primary Pupils at school the following day.

School closes 17 December All classes end at mid-day.