



CRIMSON  
GLOBAL  
ACADEMY

CGA.SCHOOL

# THE *NEW* GLOBAL ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL

## CGA NEWSLETTER

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MAY 2022

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# Executive Principal Update



## IMPORTANCE OF PASTORAL CARE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

At CGA we have a very strong belief in the close link between education and health. Good pastoral care is a fundamental aspect of effective schools. All the most recent evidence tells us that:

- Students with better health and wellbeing are likely to achieve better academically
- Effective social and emotional competencies are associated with greater health and wellbeing, and better achievement
- The culture, ethos and environment of a school influences the health and wellbeing of students and their readiness to learn.

Over the past two years the Covid pandemic has brought to schools' attention globally the impact of the pandemic on students' wellbeing and mental health, and has highlighted just how important pastoral leadership and pastoral care are for our students.

Since lockdown, schools around the world continue to report an increasing demand for the services of the pastoral care team.

The reason is clear: against a decade-long pattern of deteriorating mental health among young people, the Covid-19 pandemic has made everything worse.

Numerous recent studies have observed sharp increases in rates of depression, anxiety, loneliness, and suicide attempts.

As an online school, lessons at CGA continued as normal during the pandemic so the worry over lost learning time and concern for students' academic futures were not as prevalent as in regular schools.

However, that does not mean that our students were not impacted by the effects of the pandemic, especially as we have a significant number of part time students who did lose learning time in their regular schools.

In addition, it is adolescents and young people in particular, who rely heavily on peer connections for emotional and social support, and for social development who were particularly vulnerable to the pandemic and lockdown effects.

Given the increasingly stressful and challenging times that we now live in there is an increasing need for our pastoral care team of Deans and Careers Counsellor Bob Fan to provide support and advice.

We also are fortunate to have a highly qualified and experienced Guidance Counsellor available who can be booked at additional cost by emailing Kevin Park at [k.park@crimsoneducation.org](mailto:k.park@crimsoneducation.org) for students with specific needs such as particularly challenging mental health conditions (see attached flyer for details).

The sort of multi-faceted and vital assistance CGA's pastoral care team provide include:

- Helping students to explore their difficulties and concerns, and to develop their capabilities and resilience
- Supporting and advising students with different emotional and mental health needs
- Fostering conditions in which a student can grow and develop as a person
- Offering leadership and sharing expertise in promoting positive relationships
- Promoting awareness of and respect for difference
- Promoting healthy communication between families, peers and staff
- Student advocacy
- Mediation/restorative practices
- Accessing support from a variety of external agencies and social services
- Identifying students at risk and providing appropriate support

Providing such services is becoming an increasingly important and necessary function of a secondary school. There is strong research evidence that pastoral care can augment academic outcomes and assist in enriching students' lives and wellbeing by fostering positive relationships among students, reducing truancy and other forms of absenteeism, improving retention rates, and enhancing resilience.

CGA students are fortunate that the school's pastoral care network is available to them and is staffed by highly qualified and empathetic staff.



**John Morris, ONZM**  
Executive Principal

# Principal's Corner

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**Mark Phillips**  
Principal, CGA

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One of the great advantages of attending CGA, that few schools in the world would have at their disposal is a large tech team. Our team works tirelessly to make our classroom learning experience increasingly engaging and valuable for our students. Recently our technology team has been busy developing our parent portal.

It was released to our US parents in late May and will be released to all families shortly with increased features.

The Parent Portal has a number of administrative features that will help parents support their children. It will enable a smoother onboarding experience. The tech challenges when students join can appear daunting and this should enable parents to keep track of this process.

It also has a simple interface to view your child's timetable and view their attendance. A number of school documents will be readily available for easy reference; for example textbook requirements, our curriculum guides and up to date technology requirements.

One of the principles behind our technology development is to make the student learning journey as transparent and visible to parents as possible.



The Parent Portal is one way in which we will surface this learning. The first steps are to include upcoming assignments and whether they have been submitted, submitted late or still to submit. Assignments that are still overdue will also be visible to parents.

Additional features surfacing attributes that support learning will also be visible via a dashboard summarising attendance, homework submission and punctuality to lessons.

As well as these innovations the school is trialing the use of exit slips. An exit slip is a student response to questions that enable the teacher and the school to monitor understanding, engagement and the tech experience (essentially the internet connection quality). This feature is another idea to support learning and speed up appropriate feedback to address areas of weakness.

The initial 3 questions will concentrate on understanding, engagement and a question from our tech team. These slips will be available through CGA Home.

Can I remind parents of the [prize giving for our Greenwich September 2021 and Aoraki August 2021 cohorts on July 3rd.](#)



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# DELIVERING INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

At CGA our approach to online education is designed to optimise the student learning experience. Students embark on an educational journey that drives them to achieve their full potential.



# Deputy Principal's Section

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT EVENTS

### AORAKI AUG. 2021-22:

June: External IG, AS and AL **Pearson examinations** continue.

June - July Pre-IG, IG and AS classes continue.  
A2 classes on Exam Leave after their last examination.

June 18 - 23: Pre-IG classes sit their End of Year **CGA Examinations**.

July 1 Pre-IG End of Year Reports sent to Parents.

July 8 Term 4 and Academic Year ends Friday  
(Sun. for Weekend classes)

### AORAKI FEB. 2022:

June 2: Internal **CGA Examination 2** ends

June 16: Mid Year Reports sent to Parents.

June 20-23: Parent Teacher Meetings

July 8: Term 2 Ends. July holidays start July 11.

### AORAKI MAY 2022:

June 1 - 8: Internal **CGA Examination 1**

June 21: Progress Reports sent to Parents.

June 27-30: Parent Teacher Meetings

July 8: Term 1 Ends

July 11-29 Holidays. Term 2 starts on Aug 1.

### GREENWICH SEP. 2021-22:

June: External IG, AS and AL **Pearson examinations** continue.

June - July Pre-IG, IG and AS classes continue.  
A2 classes on Exam Leave after their last examination.

June 18 - 23: Pre-IG classes sit their End of Year Internal **CGA Examinations**.

July 1 Pre-IG End of Year Reports sent to Parents.

July 8 Term 3 and Academic Year ends Friday  
(Sun. for Weekend classes)

July 11-Sep 1 Summer holidays.

### GREENWICH JAN. 2022:

June 15: **Mid Year** Reports sent to Parents.

June 20-23: Parent Teacher Meetings

July 8: Term 2 Ends.

July 11-Aug 26 Summer holidays.



# Technology Section

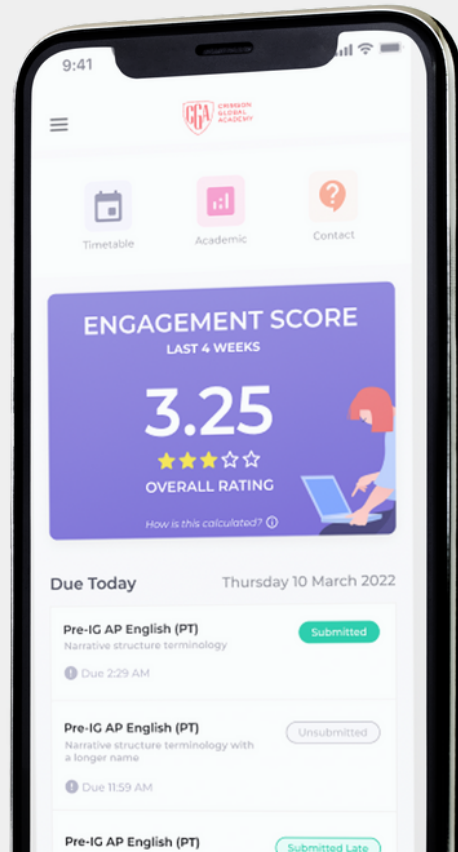
We are excited to announce the release of our parent portal late next week. Please look out for our 'Welcome to the Parent Portal' email from [mycga@cga.school](mailto:mycga@cga.school).

In this email we will invite you to set your own password and sign in to view your child's:

- academic progress
- upcoming work
- students timetable
- leave requests
- contact information

We will be building out this information further over the coming months.

Please contact us at [mycga@cga.school](mailto:mycga@cga.school) should you have any questions, or do not receive your welcome email.



# Student Spotlight



## HELLO, EVERYONE!

My name is Eva Poklonskaya and I am 15 years old. I am a singer, songwriter, I play on the piano and the trumpet. My vocal career started when I was 4 years old. Since then I fell in love with music and performed at many concerts, festivals and competitions.

I took part in music TV projects, like “The Battle of Talents 3” 2019 and “The Voice Kids 8” 2021. In 2019 I participated in “Broadway Dreams” where I performed as an actor, singer and dancer at the same time. After that I was chosen to be in the Grand Final show in New York and performed as an actual Broadway artist!

I have always wanted to share my original music with the world! Right now I am in the beginning of my journey as a songwriter and a performer of my own music. My first original single “Home”, which is one of the songs from my upcoming album, is going to be released on the 17th of June!



I want to dedicate my life to music. From the very beginning it has been very hard for me to combine school and music, as both were equally important to me and required a lot of time. But CGA made my life a lot easier and much more organized.

Learning online, has been a dream of mine, as I could focus on the subjects more and spend more time on studying. CGA has made this dream come true in the best way possible!

Not only it became easier for me to focus on both music and school, but also my knowledge and understanding in school improved!

I was able to finish my original music, when I joined CGA and I am very thankful to CGA for helping me make another dream of mine come to live! I can't wait to continue learning at CGA!

Thank you very much!





# REIMAGINING LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

## CRIMSON GLOBAL ACADEMY

An Independent School  
New Zealand Ministry of Education registered  
CEEB Code: 703001  
MoE School Number: 921

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