



CRIMSON
GLOBAL
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CRIMSON GLOBAL ACADEMY

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

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Executive Principal Update



STARTING A NEW TERM. HOW TO FIND A BALANCE BETWEEN YOUR BREAK AND ACTIVITIES.

All our school campuses are either still in the holiday mood or have just started the new term, as is the case in Aoraki. Exams are over for Greenwich and the US campus at this time and no doubt students are breathing some serious sighs of relief. However, for Aoraki students' exams are just around the corner and so they should be in the throes of sharpening up on concepts and knowledge needed to ensure examination success.

While both teachers and students all need a well-deserved break, recent research makes it very clear that it is vital that students keep their minds active throughout the year, and the holiday period for both Greenwich and the US students is the best time to set aside a few hours and plan out the term and year ahead. There is strong evidence that students' concentration levels drop by over 20% by the time they return to school and get themselves back into work mode. This dip in brain functioning and the ability to focus can greatly impact test results and assessments.

However, it is also important to take a break and relax during the holidays, so that you are feeling fresh, excited, energised and motivated about the new term. It is all about balance.

Starting the next term with a plan of action is one of the best ways to ensure students are well prepared and "ready to rock and roll" from day one of the new term. Even a couple of hours each morning during the holidays set aside for some school-related work is the best way to keep your brain active and fresh for the demands of the new term.

The upcoming new term is also a great opportunity to make a fresh start and begin the term with a clean slate. Feeling energised about a new term and year has nothing to do with luck and everything to do with how well-organised you are. A few pointers might help getting you positive for the challenges ahead:

- Working from home requires you to have an organised and quiet place to work so start with your work space and clear it off, recycle any unnecessary paperwork, file away your notes from last term but keep them handy for exam reference.

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL UPDATE

- Evaluate how your study went last term and ask yourself what went well and what was disappointing. Begin by highlighting some goals for the coming term based on your self-evaluation and make a plan for revising for tests and examinations.
- Be aware that there will be new content that you will encounter in the new term so begin by organising your study notes and keep them up to date as new material is presented by the teachers.
- Check the syllabus documents to make sure you are aware of what is likely to come up and be assessed, and test yourself on the content and rate yourself on your grasp of the required knowledge.
- Keep to a routine throughout the term so there is no last-minute stress, frustration or need to panic and cram in the hope of achieving decent grades.
- Make sure you establish a strong work ethic early in the new term so that when you apply for and get into your favoured university you are well prepared for the more demanding workload and expectations of advanced work and impending tertiary study.

Best wishes to all our CGA students for the new term and always aim to be the best you can be.



John Morris, ONZM
CGA Executive Principal



Principal's Corner

Mark Phillips
Principal, CGA



While also mentioned in the previous newsletter I need to reiterate that it was a privilege to recognise the outstanding success of our students at our recent prize giving. Many of our students have worked hard at CGA for two years and we look forward to seeing many strong university offers roll in after examination results are confirmed.

My special thanks to Eva Poklonskaia for a wonderful performance of her original song. You can find her latest single on Spotify. It is well worth a listen. I also want to thank James Dagan for his thoughtful leaving speech.

We have recently made changes to our Aoraki mid year intakes. We have discontinued our Aoraki August start classes (apart from some continuing A Level courses) to align these with our Greenwich September classes. This should provide a stronger learning experience by avoiding the long summer break across December and January and enable the school to leverage our outstanding staff from across the globe.

We have also changed the structure of our part time classes as a trial. We have moved from three 60 minute lessons to two 90 minute lessons (with a short break in the middle of the lesson). The driver for this change is to make it easier for students to avoid clashes with extra curricular activities due to the complexity in their busy lives. We will review this across the course of the next few months as we consider the Aoraki February 2023 intake.

I also would like to take this opportunity to thank David Griffiths for his contribution to our school. David is a very talented teacher of mathematics that has driven the introduction of our Further Mathematics programme. David is returning to the United Kingdom for family reasons and is rejoining Eton College. We wish him well and hope that he might rejoin our school at some point in the future.

PEARSON EDEXCEL EXAMINATIONS

Pearson Examination results will be released on:

International A Levels **18th August**
International GCSE **25th August**

Information about how to access your results have been sent to you. If you require additional support could you email exams@cga.school. CGA will provide informational and additional support for students seeking advice on their steps after results are released. Look out for our letter that will be sent shortly.

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENDATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who received Principals Commendations during the month of July:

Ayaka Anzawa, Andy Liao and Madison Kranz.



CRIMSON
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A COMPELLING ONLINE HIGH- SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

Small, live classes and a highly interactive experience means students enjoy meaningful and productive relationships with teaching staff.

Deputy Principal's Section

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN AUG-SEPT

AORAKI AUG. 2022-23:

Aug 1 Term 1 begins
Sep 5-11 Internal **CGA Examination 1**
Sep 22 Progress Reports sent to Parents.
Sep 26-29 Parent Teacher Meetings

AORAKI FEB. 2022:

Aug 1 Term 3 starts
Aug 22-28 Internal **CGA Examination 3** (ends on 29th for Part Time classes)
Sep 12 End of Year Reports (and Pre-IG 3rd Reports) sent to Parents.

AORAKI MAY 2022:

Aug 1 Term 2 Starts
Sep 5-11 Internal **CGA Examination 2**
Sep 22 Mid Year Reports sent to Parents.
Sep 26-29 Parent Teacher Meetings
Sep 30 Term 2 ends on Fri. (Sun. for Weekend classes)

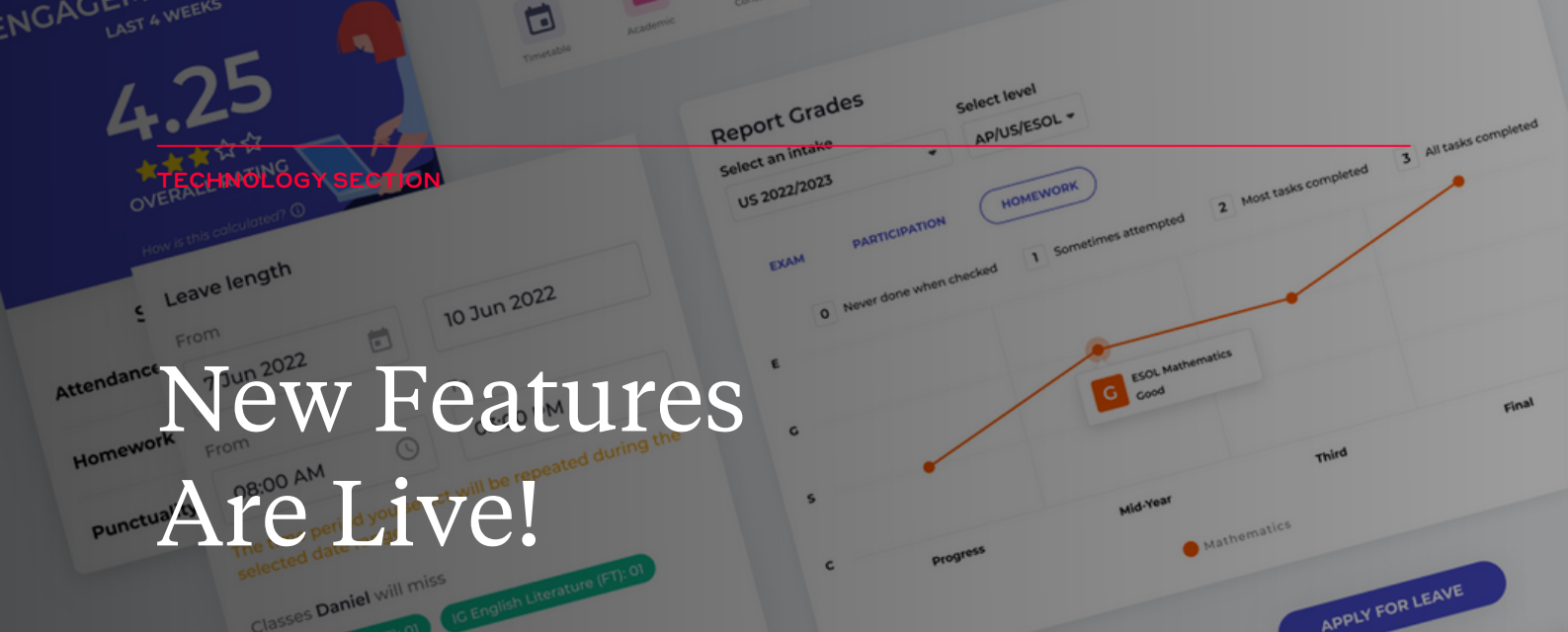
GREENWICH SEP. 2022-23:

August Summer Holiday prior to this intake starting on Sep. 2
Sep 2 Term 1 begins Friday
Sep 5-9 CEM testing week in Form Classes

GREENWICH JAN. 2022:

Aug 1-26 Summer Holidays continue
Aug 29 Term 3 begins
Sep 12-18 Internal **CGA Examination 3** (ends on 19th for Part Time classes)
Sep 30 End of Year Reports (and Pre-IG 3rd Reports) sent to Parents.





New Features Are Live!

This month, Senior Product Designer, Sam Kitson takes you through our latest release.

The CGA team are excited to share some new features that are now live on the Parent Portal. We think you're going to love them!

You are now able to:

- Request a leave of absence in advance
- Access homework and participation grades on your child's Academic Profile

And very soon you will also be able to justify past absences directly through the Parent Portal.

LEAVE REQUEST

Taking an upcoming holiday? Or is there an ongoing clash with one of your child's classes? We've made it easier than ever to request a leave of absence by putting this new feature on the Dashboard.

ACADEMIC PROFILE

You'll find grades for your child's lesson participation and homework are now visible in the report grades chart, alongside exam grades.

ATTENDANCE

In the coming weeks you will have the ability to justify your child's past absences through the Attendance page of the Parent Portal, and see live updates on the status of absences - whether they've been seen and/or approved.

WHAT PARENTS ARE SAYING

"CGA is hands down the best academic experience we've had"

Briar
New Zealand

"[The Parent Portal] is very handy, my youngest is juggling regular school as well as CGA school. Being able to see upcoming work is very useful. It's helpful if I can give her a bit of a reminder if I see something is coming up. I wish their regular school did that."

Anne
Australia

"CGA is virtual first, I do appreciate the thought that goes into the apps and hardware to make online learning conducive"

Mohamed
Dubai



Sam Kitson
CGA Senior Product Designer

Student Spotlight

TAKING A STRATEGIC STANCE ON SUSTAINABILITY

Singapore-based CGA student, Joash Lee, is one of the youngest recipients to receive Harvard Business School's Certificate of Specialization in Strategy at just 19, following the completion of three courses in the field:

- Sustainable Business Strategy
- Disruptive Strategy
- Strategy Execution

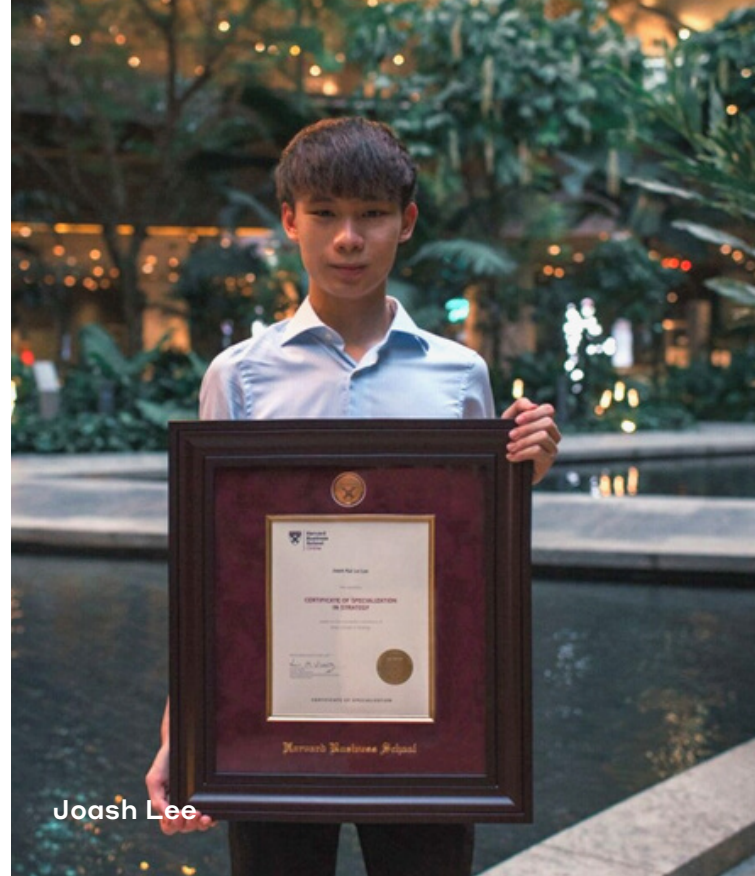
Joash is passionate about sustainability and aims to study Land Economy at the top-ranked University of Cambridge in the UK.

In pursuit of this dream, Joash is studying International Advanced Levels Mathematics (Statistics) while concurrently pursuing a Diploma in Business Studies at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

"I realised I had bigger university ambitions only after joining a polytechnic. That's why I decided to join CGA as a part-time student."

Joash says he decided to join CGA to study Maths (Statistics) following a response from the Cambridge faculty outlining benefits of studying the subject.

Land Economy is a course that integrates Economics, Law, and Sustainability — offering a diverse exposure across an intellectually challenging three-year course. With an interest in all three, he has found it to be the perfect fit. He shares that he has also chosen Cambridge because of the Management Studies Tripos it offers, which he plans to transfer to in his final year.



"What I've realised after studying statistics is that it's really interesting and is applicable to different real-life business situations,"

The avid learner recently had the opportunity to attend Harvard Business School Online's annual conference, 'Connex', which was held in Boston. There, he had the chance to participate in discussions, as well as meet professors and fellow alumni.

Inspired by Professor Rebecca Henderson who taught the Sustainable Business Strategy course, he says: *"I firmly believe that corporates are the solution to the sustainability crisis. There's this common notion that sustainability increases costs for businesses. And while that's true in some instances, there are a number of business models firms can integrate to do both well and good. Leaders must have the courage to make a few big, strategic moves if we want a shot at turning things around."*

In his free time, Joash advocates for sustainability by publishing articles on LinkedIn in hopes of raising awareness of the issues faced and imploring those in positions of authority to act.



His recent internships include a stint at a strategy consulting firm, where he gained invaluable insights on problem solving techniques, and before that, an internship at an asset management company where he was in-charge of research. In the upcoming month, he will be interning at a venture capital firm to gain further exposure.

Joash's skills and achievements are not just confined to the business world. He humbly shares: *"I've been a photographer since I was 13 and accumulated a number of accolades over the years, including the Singapore Young Photographer Award and International Photography Awards. I also run a creative agency, JOASH_L. It initially started off in 2016 with a focus on photography but has since branched out to digital marketing."*

When asked about the advantages of studying at CGA, he shares: *"I think there are a number of benefits. Compared to traditional schools, you have greater flexibility to choose what and when you wish to study from the comfort of your home. Small class sizes also give you the opportunity to ask questions and clarify doubts whenever they arise."*

"I really like the use of technology. OneNote, in particular, allows teachers to monitor what everyone is doing and provide guidance in real-time. I'd like to shoutout Ms Molland who has been an amazing Maths teacher!"

Joash is of the belief that: 'With passion and purpose comes success'. His advice to fellow CGA students is to:

"Find something meaningful that you have a genuine interest in. That way, you'll be intrinsically motivated and naturally do well."

Joash Lee
Singapore-based CGA student

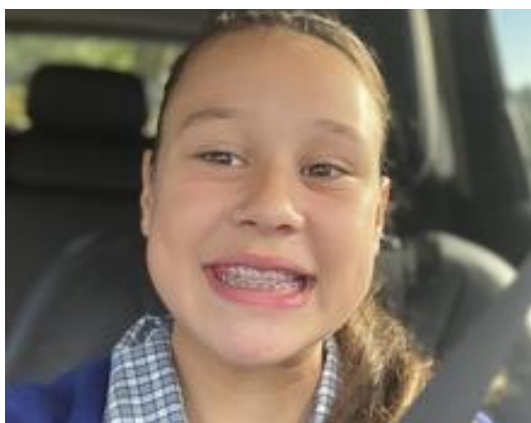


OUR RECENT STUDENT MEETUP EVENT IN NZ

- Making new friends ✓,
- seeing the cute animals in the zoo ✓,
- visiting the famous Wētā Workshop ✓,

These are some of the highlights of our recent New Zealand student meet-up events.

It was great to see a lot of CGA students and families travelling from different cities in NZ and Japan(!!) to join our event! Thanks for coming and we look forward to seeing you again soon!



LULU MILLER, GYMNASTICS NATIONALS COMPETITION

Lulu Miller, a full time Pre-IG student recently competed in Gymnastics Nationals (NZ) at Invercargill during the recent school holidays in July. Lulu received 2nd All Around for her division and 3rd on Uneven Bars representing Bay of Plenty.

Science Practicals

CGA recently provided an opportunity for science students in New Zealand, and even some from Australia, to have three days of practicals in a science lab in Northcote College, Auckland. One of our wonderful students, Jasmine Wei, took the time to send us this feedback.

"The CGA practicals were a wonderful experience, in both academic and social aspects. I was able to have hands-on experience which, as a visual learner, was super important to me.

I was at the practicals for all three sciences, all of which were rather intriguing. I found the Physics and Chemistry practicals especially engaging, the programs were extremely well planned out and we completed a tremendous amount of work in the span of 6 hours. The flexibility of the workshop was also amazing- I was able to join the A2 groups for many workshops without any previous arrangements thanks to Mrs Husband.

To me, the best part of the workshop was seeing my teachers and classmates off-screen. Everyone looked extremely different in 3D rather than 2D.

"It was also surprising to see how well we all blended in and how friendly everyone is. We were able to make awesome friends and get to know other students personally."

It really was a worthwhile experience and I absolutely recommend it to anyone who is able to make it. Thanks so much to all the teachers who organised the workshop!"

Thank you to our amazing staff, who continually go the extra mile to improve the learning experience for our students. Well done to all involved.



INTERNATIONAL GCSE SCIENCE PRACTICAL SESSIONS IN OCTOBER

We will run in person International GCSE practical science sessions at a school in Auckland during the first week of October. If you are planning to attend, which is highly encouraged for all students studying an IG science and can travel to Auckland, could you return the form that has been sent to you or talk directly with your science teacher about the details.



School Assembly

We will be having a school assembly on 2nd September 2022 for all of the students starting in the Greenwich intake.

We look forward to seeing you there!!



REIMAGINING LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

CRIMSON GLOBAL ACADEMY

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MoE School Number: 921

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