



### Deputy Principal Message

#### Half-Way Through Term One

The middle of the first term indicates that one fifth of the Year 11, 12 and 13 students' College academic year has passed.

#### Assessments for Senior Students

Towards the end of this term senior students will have their first round of assessments due.

It is important for students to be organised to have the work completed and handed in on time. There are deadlines to meet and, for some Year 11 students, this will be the first time they have encountered a deadline with no flexibility - that is the date.

#### Online Work

Staff have work online for students to access. Therefore, if students are not able to attend school, the work is available to ensure they do not get behind with their studies.

If senior students are absent for other than Covid-related issues, and have an assessment due, they do need to apply for an extension of the date the work is due to be handed in. If possible, this should be three days before the due date or, in the case of illness on the day, by letting the teacher know that day that they will not be there.

We are in challenging times for everyone, and we will do all we can to support students achieve their grades, as outlined by the words of our Mission Statement: *'Individual Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment'*.

#### Congratulations

Congratulations to all the students who have been appointed to the wide range of leadership roles for 2022.

To make them more visible and acknowledge their role, coloured braids around the blazer are part of their recognition. Head and Deputy Students have red braid around their blazers. A combination of red and blue stripes on the blazer sleeve indicates a member of the Student Executive team; and plain red, blue, green or orange represent the respective Captains of the College Houses.

#### The AshColl Way is how we do things at Ashburton College under the headings of -

##### Quality, Pride and Respect.

Later this term we celebrate the 'QUALITY' achievements of the Year 12 and 13 students' Level 1 and 2 2021 NCEA results.

In this Academic Blues Assembly, students who have achieved 50 or more Excellence Credits will receive an Academic Blue; and students who have achieved a total of 50 or more combined Excellence and Merit Credits will receive an Academic Performance Award.

'PRIDE' is being proud of what you do. Ashburton College students show this in the way they wear their uniform; and how and when they arrive in class - prepared and on time; and completing work to their highest standard.

We thank parents and caregivers for their support in ensuring their child is arriving at school on time, with the right equipment and uniform.

'RESPECT' is about using polite and appropriate language, and whilst most students follow this, some students are still refining their skills in this area.

**Ashburton College is a place of learning, and this covers academic knowledge as well as the skills needed to be a supportive and caring member of our society.**

*Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States, famously stated that:*

*'I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have.'*

Helen Shore-Taylor  
Deputy Principal • Tumuaiki Tuarua



### Staff – Welcome



**Barbara Boulton**  
Learning Support Assistant,  
Food and Nutrition Technician,  
Fabrics Assistant.



**Toni McKee**  
Reading Teacher.



**Olivia McLennan**  
Learning Support Assistant,  
Te Whare Manaaki.

### Staff – Internal Appointments

**Patrick Neal** Teacher-in-Charge Technical Vocational Pathways, including Automotive, Trades and Building.

**Helen Shore-Taylor** Acting Head of Department Home Economics (2022), additional to her Deputy Principal role.

**Sean Stephen** Acting Head of Department Hard Materials (2022).

### Information

#### Next Chapter Parenting -

#### Offering the Parent Survival Kit

**Next Chapter Parenting offers Individual or Group Parenting Sessions via Zoom.**

The course is ideal for individuals (one-on-one), groups or a group of friends.

You can contact Next Chapter Parenting to arrange sessions to suit your time and needs.

The full course is for ten one-hour weekly sessions, at a time convenient to you, including evenings.

#### Do you:

- Find yourself yelling at your child more often than laughing with your child
- Feel you have lost touch with your child
- Feel frustrated and find yourself saying the same things over and over again with no result

#### Topics Include:

| Communication                                      | Empathy                              | Setting Limits  |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Quality Time                                       | Consequences                         | Choices         |
| Redirection  | Picking your Battles with your Child |                 |
| Problem Behaviour                                  | Praise vs Acknowledgement            |                 |
| Time In vs Time Out                                | The Pause                            | Sibling Rivalry |
| Teenage Boundaries Erickson's Stages of Growth     |                                      |                 |
| Personality Types and how it Affects your Children |                                      |                 |

#### Contact:

f: Next Chapter Parenting  
www.nextchapterparenting.co.nz  
E: brigid@nextchapterparenting.co.nz  
M: 0221087214

WINZ Funding Assistance Where Eligible.

### Events

#### Presentation about Afghanistan to Ashburton College Staff

Information provided by Ashburton College Former Refugee Liaison Person, Joanne Wakelin

It was a pleasure to have our Ministry of Education Senior Migrant and Refugee Advisor, Elizabeth, Hamilton and Intern Mahtab Mahjor present to all our staff recently, via zoom, as part of our Professional Development. Professional Development takes place most Wednesday mornings from 8:20am-8:40am and covers a range of topics. Currently these meetings are all taking place via zoom.

Joanne said that, as a staff, we are enjoying learning more about the people and culture of Afghanistan; in order to help our incoming former refugees as much as possible.

Mahtab arrived in New Zealand from Afghanistan in 2019, and has recently graduated from the University of Canterbury with a B.Com in Finance and

### Events

Economics; and a minor in International Business. Finishing secondary school in Afghanistan in the Dari language, meant her university life in a new culture was not an easy journey, but she is grateful for the support she received.

Mahtab was able to share a wide range of knowledge with us, including explaining some of the political history of Afghanistan, the cultures and geography of this diverse country.

(Pictured right): Mahtab Mahjor.

One of the important messages taken from the presentation was that, as a school, we need to be very aware of the differences around communication between New Zealand and Afghanistan.

Mahtab explained that communication amongst people in her culture is much more often implied than we are used to. A small nod of the head, the tone and volume of the voice, and body language can be very important in a conversation.

She also emphasised that, when meeting a person from Afghanistan (especially when they are first in a new country), many are not used to handshakes. The most respectful thing for us to do is to place our hand on our chest and greet them.

Another important thing is that schools in Afghanistan are segregated for males and females. This includes all teachers and support staff. Therefore, new students from Afghanistan may find the transition to our co-ed school difficult.

Ashburton College thanked Mahtab for her honest and open presentation. We learnt a lot and certainly look forward to continuing to learn more on this new cultural journey as we welcome more students from Afghanistan this year.

#### Innovative Pro-action to the Fore – Orientation/Opportunities

In a 'normal' year College, towards the end of February, College holds its annual Orientation morning. Upwards of fifty displays are showcased with students able to view, talk with organisers and sign-up to be involved in areas of interest to them. There are literally activities available for all at College and all interests and, when it is possible outside of COVID restrictions, we encourage students to become involved.

Last year we were fortunate to be able to hold this outdoor fest, but this year the option of the customary crowded chessboard was not feasible.

Undaunted and continuing to demonstrate the ability to be flexible of thought and action, the College's Student Executive Sports Committee and College's ever-positive Sports Co-ordinator, collaborated. From this, the Sports Committee put together a Power Point presentation which was circulated to the House Leaders for showing in Ako classes. This has had one airing and is due to be shown again in the week of this newsletter.

All credit goes to the Sports Committee for their work, and very polished production advertising sports available for College students to be involved in, with one page and photos for each sport. It is likely that similar information regarding cultural activities will follow at a time suitable to their calendar.

The Sports and Recreation Committee members are – Lusungu Mbambo (Committee Head), Izayih Harris, Maddi Lowry, Sam Orr, Lachie Jemmett, Lily Williams and Emma Lill.

Advertised, and available to students, were many of the sports 'Ashburton College has to offer' - covering:

Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Equestrian, Esports, Football, Golf, Golf Croquet, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Mountain Biking, Netball, Road/Track Cycling, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Smallbore Rifle Shooting, Softball, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Volleyball.



Students were encouraged to email Darion Gray on gy@ashcoll.school.nz with questions and interest in any of the twenty one sports advertised, or to suggest any sports not currently available to Ashburton College.

#### Appreciation

Mention is made, also, of personnel and clubs outside of the College who provide sports involvement for College students, alongside of many College staff members. The mahi of coaches and managers is greatly valued.



### Events

#### Student Executive Ronald McDonald 'House to House' Charity Event

The College's Student Executive team is participating in this Charity event, throughout March, from Monday 07-Friday 25 March.

Their contribution involves biking a total of 210km throughout the month, while gaining sponsorship and fundraising to do so.

Head Girl Jorja Roulston tells us Executive Members are biking every lunchtime at different locations within College. Day One saw the event kicked off in front of the Pastoral Suite by the Chessboard. Throughout the days the action can be seen also on the field; by the Library and Canteen; outside the big Gym; on the Basketball Courts; outside S, H, T and R Blocks; in front of the Office; outside Te Whare Wānanga.

On the final day, Friday 25 March, their plan is to be outside McDonald's Ashburton, exercycling and fundraising from 9:00am-6:00pm.

**Donations – The Executive Would Love Support for this Very Worthwhile Cause**

**Ronald McDonald House New Zealand is challenging Kiwis to walk, run, bike or swim at least 210km while raising funds during March to help support families with a hospitalised child.**

**The Student Executive's goal is to raise at least \$1000 for Ronald McDonald House.**

**If you are in a position to donate, the Link is:**

<https://fundraise.rmh.org.nz/fundraisers/ashburtoncollegestudentexecutive>



SCAN THE QR code to help donate!

As we are all aware, Ronald McDonald House in Christchurch provides an environment and support services for all family/whānau with a child needing health care, and has been available for many Mid Canterbury families.



(Pictured above, left and right): Deputy Head Boy Millar Newlands and Student Executive/Community Services Committee Leader Zane Cameron testing the exercycles on Monday 07 March, before the lunchtime start to the challenge.

There won't be so much exercycling happening in the Newlands' home this month with one of the bikes being from Millar's place, and the other from the College's Phys Ed Department.

(Pictured below, left and right): Head Girl Jorja Roulston and Student Executive/Ambassador Committee Leader Alex Bateman get the daily lunchtime cycle underway.



#### Virtual Tour Through Germany for Year 13 Student Ron Naui

'Virtuelle Deutschlandreise' was available through the Goethe Institut, Wellington, for students who attend a PASCH school, which Ashburton College is.

The PASCH initiative was established to awaken interest and enthusiasm for Germany, motivating young people to learn German, and creating an international network of schools. PASCH represents 'Schools: Partners for the Future'.

The Goethe Institut is forty years old and, since 1980, has been active in New Zealand.

#### Ron Naui's outline of the opportunity was full of enthusiasm

Ron's plan was, pre-COVID restrictions, to travel to Germany with the College Tour group. However, such ventures have been very much on hold since 2020.

This three-day experience, held mid-January, provided an opportunity to be immersed in 'things German'. Ron said it was 'really fun' and a 'best decision', particularly given this is his final year at school and therefore a final chance to access a tour substitute.

Ron was the only attendee from College, which he said he was comfortable with, and it meant he mixed straight away with others in the group of sixteen students from throughout other parts of New Zealand.

Ron's summary of the time was more than enthusiastic, saying he found travel and attendance liberating, enjoyed the opportunity to be immersed in German culture and language, gaining new experiences and making new friends, and overall 'just loved it'.

The Goethe Institut personnel of Judith Geare, Head of Language Department Deputy Director; Alexandra Töniges, German Language Advisor, and Yona Sofie Brand, Language Course Officer Administration, were extremely friendly and helpful, and the Marion Hostel accommodation was great – as was the food apparently. German cuisine really appealed to Ron, who described it as 'awesome'.

Activities included a Scavenger Hunt around the area in Wellington, including being asked by a caring passer-by if they were lost! Use of the German language was a priority, albeit some English was spoken. Paper crafting was another activity.

A highlight activity was Fliegerlied – learning a dance to a German children's song.



(Pictured left): the group around the piano, singing German songs.



(Pictured right):

The group dancing to a 'kindergarten' song (Fliegerlied).

Ron is second from the left in the back row.

#### Teaching Dance to Song Back at School

Part of this activity is for the attendees to teach the dance to classmates back in their own schools, have their teacher of German record it, and send this recording back to the Institut. Currently Ron's Year 13 German class peers are learning the dance in preparation for recording.

Teacher of German, Tom Kitchen, said that in 2021 the Goethe Institut then created a video showing the performances of each of the schools.

#### In Summary

As Ron's first time in Wellington this had all the ingredients of a great three days. Ron thoroughly recommends students apply for such an opportunity in the future, saying it provided the ability to view programme events through the eyes of German people, increasing their learning and knowledge of culture and language.



(Pictured left): The group gathered on the last day, inside the Goethe Institut building, with Head of Language Department Deputy Director, Judith Geare (back row, left). Ron Naui is on the left in the middle row.

### Congratulations

#### Delia Achten – Selection to Professional Development Programme 'A Bit Sus'

College Librarian Delia Achten has been selected as one of fifteen school librarians, New Zealand-wide, to take part in a Professional Development programme 'A Bit Sus'.

Anne Williams, Library Teacher-in-Charge, says that this very topical course is specifically for school librarians and seeks to understand the complex issue of misinformation, and to provide some tools to help students develop information literacy skills.

Anne also said that information from the course currently has stimulated a number of discussions amongst the library team, being very topical in today's climate.

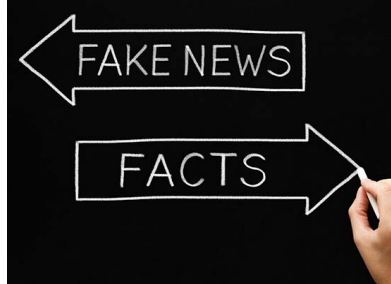
#### 'A Bit Sus' - Joining the Battle against Misinformation, Rabbit Holes and Information Warfare!

Delia, as one of the selected fifteen librarians across the motu, is training in best practice for supporting youth in countering misinformation and preventing its spread.

By the end of the initiative, it is intended that the course personnel will be able to offer their schools and wider school community a high-quality teaching programme around misinformation.

The important factor is for students to understand how and why misinformation is generated; how it is spread, how easy it is to get sucked down the rabbit hole of misinformation and to be able to distinguish between fake news and fact.

Delia said that it is known that misinformation spreads faster and further than real knowledge, especially through social media and the corporate and political manipulation of the internet. She said that this has been demonstrated in stark fashion lately, with the spread of COVID misinformation and the Russian spin on the invasion of Ukraine. Such happenings make this programme highly relevant and urgent.



Source: Wake University

#### Wise advice is - before you hit 'Share', SIFT it:

- **S**top. Think about what you have just read.
- **I**nvestigate the source - who, what, why are they saying this?
- **F**ind better coverage - compare sources. What else is out there?
- **T**race claims, quotes and media back to the original content.

'A Bit Sus' is a venture between The School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa, in partnership with Tohatoha New Zealand. It is funded in part by a New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme Grant and will be delivered to New Zealand schools in the coming year.

### Forthcoming Events

Please note: dates are as at the time of publishing. Alterations, due to COVID Omicron level restrictions will be advised to relevant groups as soon as details are known.

- March**
- 18** Second Postponement Day (if needed): Aoraki Secondary Schools Athletics, Timaru, Under 16 and Under 19 only.
  - 19** **Cancelled** - Polyfest, Entertainment Triangle, North Hagley Park, Christchurch
  - 23** Otago University Liaison - Zoom
  - Cancelled** - Mountain Bike Singletracks Round 4, Halswell Quarry Park, Christchurch
  - Cancelled** - Year 12/13 Tertiary Day, Hotel Ashburton
  - 23-25** Year 11 Outdoor Education Hike 1, Woolshed Creek Hut
  - 26-27** **Cancelled** South Island Secondary Schools' Touch Champs, Christchurch
  - 30** Mates and Dates
  - Tbc** – South Island Secondary Schools' Ultimate Frisbee, Hagley Park, Christchurch
  - Tbc** – Mountain Bike Singletracks Round 5, Halswell Quarry Park
  - 31-1 April** Year 10 Outdoor Education Hike 1, Peel Forest
- Summer Tournament Week**
- This much-anticipated week is obviously also operating on a reduced basis, with just some sports able to go ahead, as listed below. Changes of course, still remain on the horizon.
- 28-31** **Cancelled** - New Zealand Secondary Schools' Tennis Champs, Auckland
  - 28-03 April** NZSS Rowing AON Maadi Cup, Lake Ruataniwha
  - 29-31** **Cancelled** - South Island Mountain Bike Champs, Queenstown
  - 29-31** South Island Secondary Schools' Volleyball Champs, Christchurch
  - 29-01 April** **Cancelled** - New Zealand Secondary Schools' Softball, Division 2, Invercargill
  - 30-02 April** **Cancelled** - New Zealand Secondary Schools' 3x3 Basketball Tournament, Auckland
  - 31** Aoraki Golf Croquet, Ashburton