



Deputy Principal Message

Public Health Advice

As Omicron continues to spread in our community, we are following all public health advice to keep things running as smoothly as possible at the College.

Please support us in keeping students, staff and the community safe by:

- Keeping your child at home if they are sick or required to isolate;
- Ensuring your child has a mask and understands the importance of wearing it properly, particularly indoors and on school transport;
- Encourage them to physically distance where possible;
- Please notify the College Office if a child is absent or being tested.

We thank parents/caregivers, students and staff for their efforts and perseverance to date.

Growth Mindset

Schools are places of learning. Central to learning is the importance of a growth mindset for yourself and for others. As lifelong learners, a growth mindset is based on the concept that we can all make progress and build on the current skills and knowledge we possess in any given area.

We encourage all members of our school community to think in terms of 'I can't do this yet' or 'I am working towards ...'. The opposite of a growth mindset is a fixed mindset. This way of thinking tends to underpin statements like 'I can't' or 'I'll never be able to'.

Supporting students to approach their learning with a growth mindset is an important part of what we do, and this helps students to be engaged in learning for life.

Feedback and Feedforward

A key part of learning and continuous improvement is 'feedback' and 'feedforward'. Individuals who seek feedback on their performance and then apply that feedback, tend to make the most progress.

I encourage students to take on board and apply the feedback that they receive from their teachers. Actively seeking feedback will also stand students in good stead for their lives beyond school.

As a school, we regularly seek feedback from our school community on a range of matters. Thank you to those who contribute. If you ever have a point of view that you believe will support ongoing improvement for the College, please pass it on to the appropriate member of staff.

Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi
With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.
This whakatuaki talks to community, to collaboration and a strength-based approach.

It acknowledges that everyone has something to offer, as a piece of the puzzle, and that, by working together, we can all flourish.

Jono Hay
Deputy Principal • Tumuaiki Tuaurua



Congratulations

Deputy Principal Helen Shore-Taylor welcomed all to the assembly and introduced the Principal, Ross Preece. Ross congratulated students for their courage in putting their name forward for leadership positions, and noted what a positive event the early-year Leadership Camp was, as reported on in last week's newsletter. Ross highlighted that they were following-on from the last two years of student leaders who had provided a brilliant job of supporting their peers, adapting to online methods as required by COVID restrictions.

In conclusion, Ross stressed the importance of each student supporting their team and committee as they moved forward into a year which had already presented challenges.

Head Students 2022

The Head Students for 2022 then made their inaugural speeches, with all noting the privilege they felt at being in their roles, and saying how much they were looking forward to working with students and staff.

Jorja Roulston, Head Girl

Jorja opened with some challenging words, saying that 'there's always going to be another mountain, you're always going to want to make it move. There's always going to be an uphill battle. And sometimes you're going to have to lose. It's all about the climb'.

Her words to Year 9 students started with saying that 1478 days ago, she first walked in the gates of Ashburton College as a Year 9 student and started her climb.

She noted that, for many, you may have just started your climb, you may be part-way through it, or perhaps you're reaching the end.

Your time at Ashburton College has the potential to be some of the best years of your life, and it is 100 percent what you make of it - you just have to be willing to keep on climbing.

Jorja referred to our 'new normal' saying we are likely to face more challenges and even more mountains to climb. Offered were some pieces of advice to help the climb and make the summit easier to reach.

These words included:

- 'surround yourself with good people, people who enjoy your company and who will encourage you to make the right decisions, who appreciate you for just being you, and who you know will have your back. Your College journey may not be all smooth sailing and it really helps knowing that you have people that you can talk to when you need it.
- be brave, take that leap, sign up for that sports team, do that Lip Sync piece. It is all of these opportunities that make your College journey worth it. Give absolutely everything a go - and I mean everything as you never know where it might lead you.
- Third and finally - work hard. You do not need to achieve top grades or be in the top team, but I still encourage you to give it your best shot. Set goals for yourself, and aim to reach them just because dreams are just dreams without setting goals. Greatness won't be because hands are you, so set your mind to something and I think that you will all be surprised with what you can achieve.'

In conclusion Jorja said:

'Know that I, along with the rest of our 2022 Leadership Team, will be here to help get you up that mountain, cheer you on, and give you that extra push when times get tough, or to offer that celebratory high five. Let's make 2022 a year for the books.'

Jack Brown, Head Boy

Jack opened his speech, saying 'I don't know about you, but I'm feeling 22' is a wise lyric sung by the ever-so inspiring Taylor Swift.

He suggested he knew it may be a stretch, but he was almost certain that Taylor meant that 2022 would be an amazing year, and that he could feel it already.

Jack said he could remember sitting in the very same crowd in front of him as a Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 student, dreaming of having these fancy ribbons and flashy badges on his blazer, along with the prestigious title of being a Head Student.

Perceptively he noted, though, that being a Head Student may be important, and a vital role within our school, but 'I promise that every one of the students at Ashburton College plays just as important a role in the way we function and represent the school'.

Jack congratulated all students who are stepping into leadership roles this year, saying he was looking forward to working with his Co-Head Students and all Committee Heads and Committees, being sure that, in 2022, all will do an amazing job.

Concluding, Jack said to all students of Ashburton College - 'I know you hear it every year from all the Head Students, but I truly mean it when I say this. Try everything and give everything a go. One of my biggest regrets at Ashburton College is not taking every opportunity. We have countless opportunities, left and right, and I really encourage you to take them as they're offered to you - whether that's trying a new sport, or taking a new class that's separate from your friends.

Get yourself out there, be remembered, and make your name heard.'



TC Trusler-Clark, Deputy Head Girl

TC introduced herself through her mihi -

Tena kotou e te whānau,
Ko takitimu tōku wake,
Ko opuke tōku mouna,
Ko Hakatere tōku awa,
Ko ngāti kahungunu tōku iwi,
Ko TC tōku ingua
Ta ke rangatira tana kai te kōrero,
ta te ware te mahukai.

Then saying - He waka eki noa:
being a waka which all are in together.

TC continued this theme, encouraging students to work hard as one big tribe, paddling together for the best outcomes for 2022. Students were challenged to strive to achieve quality, show pride in all they do, and have respect for teachers, peers and themselves.

Noted was the fact that chiefs are people who are a part of the tribe, but no different from everyone else except for leading from the front, and offering guidance when needed. TC emphasised that student leaders are normal people, and encouraged students not to hesitate to approach their school leaders.

TC also encouraged students to 'give everything a go' saying 'there are so many different opportunities for each and every one of you'.

**He aha te mea nui o te ao?
He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.
Kia Ora.**

**What is the most important thing in the world?
The people, the people, the people.**



Millar Newlands, Deputy Head Boy

Millar opened his speech with the challenging but true thought from Denzel Washington (American Actor, Director and Producer) describing an analogy Les Brown, a motivational speaker, made, saying:

'Imagine lying on your death bed and there are ghosts that represent your unfulfilled potential, the opportunities that you passed on, the ideas you never acted on. The ghosts are angry, disappointed and sad. You could have brought us to life they say, but instead, we're going to the grave together'.

Millar then said to students, that, 'this year my goal for you all is to soak up all the opportunities you are given and think about the ghosts that could be sitting next to you on your death bed when your time comes'.

Likening this to his thoughts of becoming a student leader he said, when listening to previous Head Students, 'bugger doing that'.

But then, one day last year, the opportunity came to 'give this a crack', and 'I thought to myself that without trying I could never succeed; and without failing I wouldn't have even been trying.

So - I urge you all to make this year, your year; a year where you don't just dream, but you set goals and make your dream a reality, no matter what others say or think'.

Millar's goals for this year include bringing more pride into the school, and starting traditions (which in themselves bring pride). Millar suggested we're not always as proud as we should be, and that a school is only as great as you make it.

The real truth was exposed, with the challenge that if students 'knock-off' Ashburton College, they are 'basically just knocking off themselves', saying **'we are the school, we are the students and we are the future of this community'.**

Millar cited the majority who believe this is a great school - a school with so many cultures, a school that doesn't care where you come from, a school with all the opportunities in the world.

A real-life example of pride was when the AshColl Boys' 1st XV 'gets smashed' by a big Christchurch team but rock back up to training, where everyone is so motivated, ready to get stuck in and train harder. Miller said 'they show up and get ready to play the next game because they believe that every game is an opportunity'.

There's no bigger motivation than failing!

He acknowledged that COVID is making things tough for a lot of us, but we have to make the most of what we've got, saying 'we only have one shot at this journey called life so, whatever you do, you have to give 100% and never let anyone drag you down'.

In conclusion, he acknowledged the other three Head Students and the Student Executive, but saying that it's early days yet and easier to talk-the-talk than walk-the-walk but saying that, from their few meetings so far, he has huge confidence that, as a group, they will be able to

to walk-the-talk and strive to make this great school even greater.



Information

Please note: Ako Meetings/ College Closure - Postponed

➡ College will now be open for instruction on Thursday 10 March. ⬅

Families have received information regarding the postponement of these student-parents/caregivers interviews.

The current intent is that these important interviews will take place during the week of 04 April (Week 10 of Term 1).
The specific date will be advised closer to the time.

Congratulations

Presentation Assembly and Head Students' Inaugural Speeches

It was a pleasure to be able to hold this assembly outdoors, in pleasant weather on the Chessboard, on Wednesday 16 February.

As has become somewhat customary over the past two years, the assembly was held for recipients of badges only, being mainly Year 13 students, and a small number of Year 12 students.

The event was, however, live-streamed to all Ako classes, which were operating at the same time as the assembly. This allowed for students to hear the speeches and view the presentations.

Appreciation

Our grateful appreciation goes to Principal's Secretary Jodee Ross for videoing the occasion to Zoom into each classroom, and to Year 11 student Jared Munn for technical support.

The Assembly

This event is a celebration and acknowledgement of student leadership, student involvement and focus for the year.

Our Head Students gave their first speeches and student leadership badges were presented to them, the Student and House Executive members, and to House Committee members.

Student leaders are recognisable by braids on their blazers - red for Head Students; red and blue sleeve strip for Student Executive members; while House Captains have a one sleeve braid, in their House colour.



Congratulations

College Student Committees

As can be seen, there is a huge range of leadership opportunities available to senior students and, in this newsletter, we introduce you to all who have been successful in their willingness to work towards furthering influence and activities across the College.

Meet this year's Ashburton College Student Executive



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Amelie Robertson, Alex Bateman, Claudia Thomas, Lusungu Mbambo, Salatielu Iakopo, Campbell McBride, Henry Wallis.

(Front row, left to right): Jonathon Kilgour, Caendal Harris, TC Trusler-Clark, Jorja Roulston, Jack Brown, Millar Newlands, Zane Cameron.

Student Executive Committees

Each of these committees is led by a member of the Student Executive and each committee becomes a student leadership group in its own right.

As a part of succession planning and continuity, all committees have Year 12 representatives on them, otherwise the balance of students are in Year 13.

Ambassador Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Will Rollinson (Year 12 representative), Ciara Ross, Amelia Harris (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Maria Lawn (Year 12 representative), Alex Bateman (Committee Head), Kasey Higson (Year 12 representative), Skyla Cramond.

AshColl Way Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Jacob Wilson (Year 12 representative), Ciara Ross, Neiv Sol, Kane McDonnell.

(Front row, left to right): Gianna Butler (Year 12 representative), Jonathon Kilgour (Committee Head), Luis Varias (Year 12 representative).

Ball Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Mao Nishioka and Sophie Fine (Year 12 representatives), Felicity Johnston, Zoe Barry.

(Front row, left to right): Ashton Lilley, Henry Wallis and Caendal Harris (Committee Heads), Mia Jessepe.

Community Services Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Orpah Sildo (Year 12 representative), Lana Clark-Powell, Hayley McQuillan-Ross (Year 12 representative), Jessalene Elipse.

(Front row, left to right): Aaliyah Power, Zane Cameron (Committee Head), Lydia Hooley.

Cultural Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Sera Ula, Edelma Kelsall, Denise Jerao (All Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Ngahua Maeva, Salatielu Iakopo (Committee Head), Anjali Savaiinaea.

(Absent, inset): Lucas Vainerere.

Environment/Canteen Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Laura Jensen and Tim Connolly-Whyte (Year 12 representatives), Ashleigh Blakemore, Emma Graham.

(Front row, left to right): Glenna Prado, Amelie Robertson (Committee Head), Julianna Apoldo.

Sports and Recreation Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Lachie Jemmett and Izayah Harris (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Emma Lill, Maddi Lowry, Lusungu Mbambo (Committee Head), Lily Williams.

(Absent, inset): Sam Orr (Year 12 Representative).

Student Welfare Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Maddy Young, Jack Jessep, Henry Goodes (Year 12 representative), Rachel McArthur.

(Front row, left to right): Imogene Felton, Campbell McBride (Committee Head), Mykel Pascual (Year 12 representative).

House Executive Committees

Underway also are the newly formed House Executives, leaders and members of which do an excellent job of engendering House spirit and encouraging involvement for House points, all as part of the focus of lifting the coveted House Trophy at the end of the year.

Given the year ahead we look forward to seeing their new ways of promoting the House Competition, boosting morale and getting more students involved around the school.

As with the Executive Committees, House Committees also have Year 12 representatives as part of succession planning and continuity, otherwise the balance of students are in Year 13.

We introduce the House Committees, with their House Captains: Blue House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Molly Jones, Devon Flannery, Jed Amos, Eddie Galbraith (Year 12 representative), Ella Shanks, Molly McKenna (Year 12 representative), Stacey Monk (Staff House Leader).

(Front row, left to right): Charlotte Watson, Charles Savage and Molly Milmine (House Captains), Riley Tindall.

Green House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Sifala Sagaga (Year 12 representative), Ethan Gray, Chris Angus, Sarah Mattson, Kyly Apaipo, Julia Bell (Staff House Leader).

(Front row, left to right): Laura Cameron (Year 12 representative), Kyle Cabading, Caleb McNulty and Mya Johnston (House Captains), Zoe Ritchie.

Orange House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Eli Orena, Laura Winchester and Henry Thomas (Year 12 representatives), Ouke Pasion, Ruby Gray, Mae Patterson.

(Front row, left to right): Pete Lee (Staff House Leader), Libby Alford, Anna Gray and Matt Pearce (House Captains), Sarah Wilson.

Red House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Max Nicol, Riley Sa, Boaz Drye, Georgia Keenan (Staff House Leader).

(Front row, left to right): Olivia Pearce (Year 12 representative), Georgia Hart, Gemma Tapurau (House Captain), Sama Soialo (Year 12 representative), Charizze McKenzie.

(Absent - inset, left and right): Amy McLachlan (House Captain), Angela Burrowes.