



Ashburton College

Individual Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment

Issue 28
31 August 2023

News

Message From The Principal

Winter Sports Tournament Week

This past week, and currently, we have eleven different teams competing in numerous codes throughout the South Island.

I was fortunate enough to have a three-day road trip which involved watching the 1st XI Girls' Football in Timaru, Junior Boys' Rugby in Alexandra and Basketball (Junior and Senior Boys' and Girls teams) in Dunedin on Wednesday.

Our students always get a sense of challenge and achievement over the days of competition.

My thanks to all our staff and parents who have got behind our winter codes this season, either during the weekly competition or over tournament week. All our young athletes require support to be involved.

My thanks are also given to all our Coaches, Managers, unpaid taxi drivers and uniform washers.

This tournament week concludes our fantastic winter sports season, which has held numerous winning season successes which have been, and will be, reported on in our newsletters.

One of the positive features of our AshColl sports teams is that we are gracious when we lose, but equally gracious when we win.

Derived Grade Exams

Next week we are holding Derived Grade exams for NCEA students.

These exams have two purposes:

Firstly, it gives the staff and the students a real indication of just how well-prepared the students are to face the rigors of the external exams.

Secondly, the results from these exams are assigned to students should they need an unexplained event grade if, for an unexplained reason, they are unable to sit the exams.

If your child has external exams looming, then please encourage them into study.

The Rangitata Block

The Rangitata Block is making rapid progress with interior fit-outs well underway.

This block, next year, will house Te Whare Manaaki students, and the Faculties of Science, Mathematics, Drama, Art and Agriculture.

Reminder re Drop-off Area

We encourage family members who are dropping off their children to use the new pull-in area off Walnut Avenue. This facility is designed so that students can be dropped into school safely. It is one-way only, with the entrance nearest the Rangitata Block, and the exit via our existing main driveway.



Ross Preece
Principal • Tumuaki

Staff – Welcome



Ivy Ji
Learning Support Assistant,
ESOL Department
(English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Coming Events

Please note - * denotes subject to confirmation of student availability.

September	
01-03 *	MotoCross SISS
03	Smallbore Rifle Shooting, Ashburton
03-09	Tonga Language Week
08	FLAVA Festival Caroline Bay, Timaru
08-18	College Derived Grades Exam Week
09-10 *	Golf Croquet NZSS, Havelock North
10	* Target Shooting New Zealand Inter-schools' Shoot, Rangiora
11-18	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori/Māori Language week
16	* Aoraki Mountain biking, Herbert Forest
17	* South Island Secondary Schools' Ski and Snowboard Championships, Queenstown
19	Year 13 Biology Zoo trip, Orana Wildlife Park
	StudyLink Tertiary evening, AshColl staffroom
23-25 *	Skoda National School Road Cycling Championships, Manawatu
25-30 *	NZSS Basketball National Champs, Central Energy Trust Arena, Palmerston North - (if qualify through Winter Tournament Week).

Term Dates 2023 –

Term Three	Friday 22 September
Term Four	Monday 09 October – Thursday 26 October (Year 13)
	- Tuesday 31 October (Years 11/12)
	- Tuesday 12 December (Years 9 and 10)

Information

Ministry of Education Partnerships Team – Webinar Invitation

This Webinar kōrero is available to school families and community groups who want to learn more about this aspect of the curriculum.
To Register: use the link below.

UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS and SEXUALITY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Gain insights into what our ākonga are being taught at school, and understand your rights as a parent in this space.

MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER
6:30PM – 8:30PM
ONLINE/Microsoft Teams

Register now using this link or the QR code:
<https://tinyurl.com/59uywvdp>

Panelists

Shawn Cooper
Senior Curriculum Lead at Ministry of Education with a focus on equity, agency and enriching teaching.

Liese Van Dam
Experienced primary school teacher specialising in Years 3-6, currently lead teacher for inclusion & diversity unit.

Kat Wells
NCEA Implementation Facilitator at Ministry of Education (Health and Physical Education) with fifteen years' experience as a secondary school teacher.

Raeesha Ismail
Educator, counsellor, and trainer with expertise in teacher training, primary school teaching and culturally response relationships and sexuality education.

Ministry of Education
TE TAHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

Events

Cook Islands Language Week

College's very busy Cultural Committee continues to spearhead a series of **Language Weeks** at College with the Cook Islands Week being held from 30 July–05 August.

Leader of the Committee Edelma Kelsall outlines the activities which took place during that week, due to her hard work and that of **Committee members** Oliver Davies, Freedom-Lee Gleave, Orpah Sildo, Rere Strickland, Sera Ula, Cecillia Vaelua and Ripena Umaga Vaela.

The week's programme covered:

Monday – A quiz was held in the Library for students to complete and win prizes. A display in the Library also highlighted the number of islands which make up the Cook Islands, traditions, costumes and culture, and books related to the Cook Islands also on display.

Quiz winners were: Abby Aubrey, Josh Gilbert, Emma Matau and Tui Palavi.

Wednesday – there was a Cook Islands backdrop showcasing the tipani, the most popular flower in the Cook Islands. The backdrop was decorated with leaves and balloons quoting HCILW, being Happy Cook Islands Language Week.

Friday – was Cook Islands food sale day, with the sales held at the netball courts at lunchtime. Options included foods such as chocolate donuts, chop suey and mayonnaise (potato salad), steak and rice, and coconut buns. The backdrop was moved to the netball courts, as well, for students to take more photos and to promote the food sale.

Throughout the week the committee posted phrases on the Student Executive page:

- Monday - kia orana, which means hello
- Tuesday - meitaki ma'ta (thank you)
- Wednesday - ka ore (no), and ae (yes)
- Thursday - reka (which is 'nice', food-wise)
- Friday - posted a traditional Cook Island dance performed by Rere Strickland, Tuaine Strickland and Mina Mataiti

(Pictured right): With the Cook Islands flag are (back row, left to right): Tangi Tepaki, Isaac Mataiti, Pokoia Paraia.

(Middle row, left to right): Rere Strickland, Mere Apaipo, Kim Tangatakinio, Poppy Vaeavae, Teokotai Pairu, Mina Mataiti.

(Front, left and right): Xandra Roa, AJ Teuru.



Events

Polynesian Panthers Visit College

On 03 August, College was incredibly fortunate to have a visit from the Polynesian Panthers.

The Polynesian Panthers were a revolutionary social justice movement formed to target racial inequalities carried out against Māori and Pacific Islanders in Auckland.

The movement brought attention to the injustice of the Dawn Raids of the 1970s and worked to improve living and working conditions for people. The Polynesian Panther movement spread throughout New Zealand to other main centres and has its roots in the Black Power Movement formed during the Black Civil Rights era.

Four original members of the Polynesian Panthers spoke to Year 11, 12 and 13 History and Social Studies students, and members of our kapa haka and Pasifika student community about racism, injustice and the courage to stand up for what is right.

(Pictured right, left to right): Four of the visiting members of the Polynesian Panthers, Melani Ana, Tigilau Ness, Sam Latu (Ara) and Rev Wayne Toleafoa being welcomed to College with Pōwhiri from our Kapa Haka Rōpū.



(Pictured above): Students at the presentation.

The presentation linked in well with students' assessments on significant New Zealand events and the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories curriculum.



(Pictured left, left to right): Tigilau Ness delivering part of the presentation, with Rev Wayne Toleafoa. History teachers Greta Hampton and Josh Sim said that the Polynesian Panthers' aim is to educate young people in order to liberate them from racism.

Josh and Greta said this was an incredibly humbling experience and the students and staff were very grateful to have had this opportunity.

Congratulations

Students of the Week Award, Week 5

From the Student AshColl Way Committee this week we have the five Student of the Week Awardees, who have exhibited the AshColl Way theme of 'Showing Quality by seeking help when needed'.

The recipients this week are:



Jake Douglas Year 9, Eva Hamill Year 10, Amalia Worsfold Year 11, Madi Tourle Year 12, Kaimana Acidera Year 13



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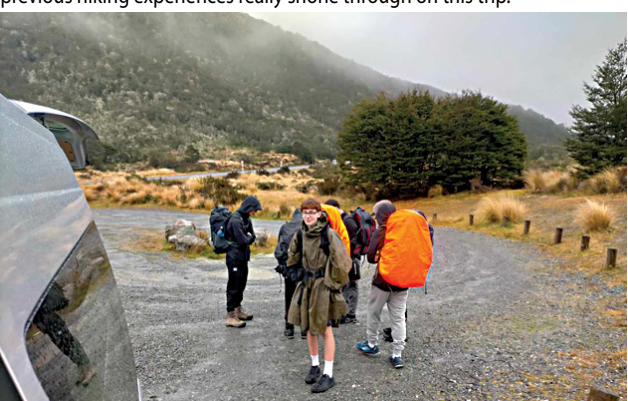
A Busy Outdoor Education Programme During Term Two

Term Two was a busy term for all of the Outdoor Education classes. Head of Outdoor Education Luke Martin said that winter was settling in, the first few assessments after Term One trips were due, and preparation for the next lot of trips was well underway.

Year 12 Outdoor Education

During Term Two the Year 12 class had their second hike for the year.

This was the big one - completing the St James Trail (66km) in four days. With rainy weather set for all of the days, the students mentally prepared themselves and packed the appropriate wet weather gear. Luckily, after the second day, the weather cleared up. The last two days were subsequently cold but pleasant to walk in. The class had a great time and all the skills and previous hiking experiences really shone through on this trip.



(Pictured above): Year 12 student Dave Walker stoked to be starting the St James hike in the rain.

The Year 12 students also had their survival camp at the end of the Term 2. Fortunately, this was able to be fitted around the industrial action rostering home. The students were required to build shelters and do a variety of navigation work. Although not a requirement of the assessment, most students opted to sleep in their shelters overnight, waking up to a balmy 0° Celsius!



(Pictured left, left and right): Year 12 students Elliott Ward and Jack Bull proud of their Shelter building skills.

Year 11 Programme

The Year 11 students got their Term 2 underway with an orienteering day trip to Peel Forest, learning the basics of orienteering and putting their new-found skills to the test by completing the course.

All students were successful and had an excellent attitude towards even the more challenging locations that were a tad difficult to find.

Unfortunately, their second hike had to be postponed due to the weather and rostering home. This overnight hike at Mt Thomas will take place early Term Four to finish the year off.

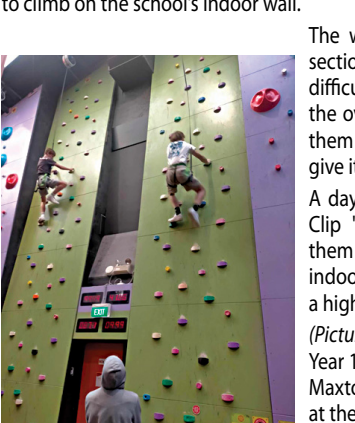
Year 10 Activities

The Year 10 students started the term off with their navigation unit, learning the basics of reading a map and using grid referencing. Then followed plenty of activities around the school and at the domain to put their skills into action.

(Pictured right, clockwise from front left): Year 10 students Savena Fagalima, Elton Eclipse, Quinn McDowell, Dante Tait and Eleanor Ross, learning how to lash poles together for their group activity.



The second half of the term saw the students take part in their Rock Climbing unit, when students had the opportunity to climb on the school's indoor wall.



The wall has four separate climbing sections, with each varying in difficulty. Having students complete the overhang was not only a buzz for them but also spurred others on to give it a try.

A day trip on the last day of term to Clip 'n Climb, Christchurch, allowed them to experience some different indoor climbing and finish the unit on a high.

(Pictured left, left and right): Year 10 students Jacob Robinson and Maxton Rowlands racing each other at the YMCa's Clip 'n Climb.

Congratulations

Driving Tuition Opportunities and Successes

Salvation Army Youth Driving Mentor Programme Graduation

During the first week of this term Head of Senior School Abbey Bruce, On-site Programme Co-ordinator Anne Sheehan and Principal Ross Preece had the pleasure of attending the Salvation Army Youth Driving Mentor Programme (YDMP) Graduation.

The fantastic programme has mentored over twenty five students since it was implemented in 2022.

The students are matched with volunteer mentors who take the students out twice a week in the YDMP car. The student and mentor work through a series of lessons that help build the students' driving skills, confidence and defensive driving awareness until they are ready to sit their restricted licence.

A known barrier for young people on their pathway to employment is not having a valid Driver's Licence. This programme supports Licence acquisition and enhances prospects of employment and other opportunities for students. The programme operates in a number of South Island Centres. As well as providing opportunities, this scheme reduces isolation, improves road safety and increases social opportunities for people.

Abbey said that it was an honour to see many of our students presented with their certificates alongside their mentors.



(Pictured left, left and right): Year 12 student Sam Danielson with mentor Lisa Silestean from Kānoa (Provincial Growth Fund).

(Pictured below left, left and right): Mentor Jo Rattray with Year 11 student Rachelle Bernarte.

(Pictured below, left and right): Year 13 student Luis Varias with his mentor Paula Preece.



Excellent Results from Canterbury Schools' Trampoline Competition

This competition was held at ICE Trampoline and Gymnastics North Canterbury on Sunday 13 August.

Nicci Glanville described it as a fantastic day with amazing results, saying that the athletes represented Ashburton College so well, despite a long day and a delayed start.

Results were:

Blue Badge/C Grade category:
Sophia Aguila 1st placing in both the Trampoline and Double Mini Trampoline

Yellow Badge/A Grade category:
Micaela Stimolo 1st placing – Double Mini Trampoline; 2nd placing – Trampoline

Junior Elite category:
Jamie Glanville 4th placing – Trampoline; 5th Double Mini Trampoline
Laura Stanley 6th placing in both the Trampoline and Double Mini Trampoline

Elite category:
Finleigh Glanville 2nd placing in both the Trampoline and Double Mini Trampoline

2nd Overall from the whole secondary schools' competition
Finleigh Glanville

2nd Placed Team

Ashburton College placed 2nd in the team event, finishing only 1.5 points behind the first place-getters.

The successful team, second-placed (pictured right, back row, left to right): Sophia Aguila, Micaela Stimolo, Finleigh Glanville.

(Front row, left to right): Laura Stanley, Jamie Glanville.



International Tennis Tournaments' Experience for Year 12 Student

Holly-Jayne Feutz

Holly-Jayne Feutz (HJ) gained great experience when she travelled to Australia at the end of June to begin competing in three international tournaments.

As part of HJ's preparation for this trip she undertook a baking fundraiser locally, the products of which were purchased and enjoyed by a number of staff! HJ said she was very fortunate to have the help of everyone who supported her in her fundraising, which was amazing, and for which she is very grateful.

Holly gives us information of her time travelling and competing -

HJ travelled to Australia with Year 9 College student Riley Breen, both travelling as 'Independents', having funded themselves. Riley returned to New Zealand after the week and a half in Brisbane, while HJ continued on to subsequent events.

HJ said that, overall, there were approximately sixty-plus players from throughout New Zealand on the Australian tour, travelling in groups with a coach, or on their own.

The four-week tour saw the first week and part of week two in Brisbane, then on the Gold Coast for the balance of week two plus the third week, and a return to Brisbane for week four, before flying home on 22 July. (Pictured right): HJ pre-training, with Riley Breen, prior to their first tournament, the Rod Laver lead-in, on the clay courts outside the Pat Rafter Arena.



First Tournament 2023 20K Queensland Open State Championships

Travelling with other New Zealand players, they flew to Brisbane on 25 June, leaving at 6:00am and arriving in Brisbane at 8:30am Brisbane-time. Showing significant stamina, their first game was at 10:30am!

This was a three-day tournament, from 24-28 June, but the New Zealand contingent had a bye on 24 June.

Results: Women's Tier 2 Consolation Winner Title

On 25 June HJ played the quarter-finals against the top seed, losing this match. She then went on to play in the consolation finals, winning 6-0, 6-4 against the second seed, and winning the final 6-1, 6-2.

In the Tier 1 Doubles main draw, she and her playing partner lost the round of 32: 1-6, 6-2, 3-10.

This tournament resulted in HJ earning the outcome of Women's Tier 2 Consolation Winner.

Tournament Two was the 2023 JT Premier Rafa Nadal and Rod Laver Lead-In

This tournament went from 29 June–03 July, with HJ playing in the Under 18 Girls' Singles section. From a round of 16, HJ won 6-3, 6-1; lost in the quarter-finals; won the 5 v 8 round 6-2, 6-0; and lost the 5 v 6 play-off in a close encounter tie-break: 4-6, 6-2, 8-10.

HJ then travelled to the Gold Coast where she played some more games and did training, staying there for a week before travelling back to Brisbane.



(Pictured left): HJ (right) with an Australian player Ruby Richardson, one of HJ's opponents in the Rod Laver Lead-In Tournament. This was played at the Queensland University Tennis Centre (UQ).

Tournament Three - 2023 Queensland Open Tennis Championships - Premier Series 10K
This tournament extended from 15-30 July, with HJ playing in the Qualifying, Open Ladies Premier Series.

HJ had a bye in the round of 32; and in the round of 16 lost to the top seed 2-6, 2-6; then in the semi-final had a win of 6-4, 6-2 and a loss in the final 3-6, 1-6.

In between tournaments the group was training and supporting the other New Zealanders there. She said that there was also a small club championships tournament which she played in and did well there also.

In summary, HJ said that she got to play on different surfaces, such as clay and grass, and that the trip 'was an awesome experience. Playing in Australia was a great chance to test my ability and see the level at which everyone else was competing. I had such a great time, I played some of my best tennis over there and next year I will go back stronger'.