



Ashburton College

Individual Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment

Issue 32
29 September 2022

News

Deputy Principal Message

Mälö le soifua, mälö e lelei, kia orāna, talofa ni, fakaalofa lahi atu, ni sa bula vinaka, tālofa, mauri, noa'ia, kia ora, tēnā koutou katoa, Hello to you all.

Finish Strong

As I'm writing this article, our senior students are nearing the end of their Derived Grade exams. It's pleasing to see the number of our senior students take up the opportunities to test themselves in order to gain feedback and feed-forward within their chosen subjects.

There are also a good number of students taking up opportunities their teachers have offered, to receive tailored support on their NCEA journey to complete assessments and/or catch up on learning missed earlier on. Moving forward I encourage all of our students, especially our senior students, to 'finish strong'.

Finish strong by attending all classes, live our school Values of Quality, Pride and Respect in and around the school to ensure that they finish the term with their relationships (teachers and students) intact, and a sense of contentment with their contribution to their achievement outcomes.

Community Entry Programme (CEP)

The Community Entry Programme is an alternative pathway offered for students between the ages of 13 years and 15 years who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to access the curriculum through mainstream education.

CEP is designed to be a short-term intervention, where students are provided personalised plans by the tutors to support engagement with learning, engagement in positive relationships and engagement with the 'best' of themselves.

The intention for us as a College is to have students return to school when they're ready and to have shown consistency in their demonstration of our school Values in their time at CEP.

Our team at CEP currently consists of three Ashburton College staff members.

Students at CEP have the opportunity to work towards achieving their NCEA Level 1 Achievement Certificate, and a number of our students this year are well on their way to achieving NCEA Level 1 by the end of the year.

Students also attend sessions at the Mid Canterbury Boxing Academy each week, for some physical activity alongside the Value of Respect. Work experience placements are also part of the personalised learning plans for students who choose to be involved in gaining experience working in local businesses. Ashburton College is in a privileged position to have access to this resource for our students.

He tini ngā whetū e ngaro i te kapua iti.

Many stars cannot be concealed by a small cloud.

Uike Kātoanga'i'o e lea faka-Tonga - Tonga Language Week

It was great to see so many students wearing traditional Tongan attire (Ta'ovala etc) to school and wearing it with pride.

The theme for Tonga Language Week was

Ke Tu'ulua'a e lea faka-Tonga i'Aotearoa,

which means Sustaining the Tonga Language in Aotearoa.

It was great to see the collaboration and co-operation from our students who sold 'otai and keke isite during one lunchtime. I was lucky enough to buy some keke isite before they sold out. I would like to acknowledge the family who made them because they were ifo atu.

One of the other highlights of the week was seeing the Tongan Girls' Group perform in front of the entire school. The beautiful Ashburton weather matched the performance that the school had the privilege of witnessing.

The plan for next year is to have a bigger celebration for Tongan Language Week with more community input. If you're interested in being a part of this next year, please contact me. **Hannibal Ikahihi**
Deputy Principal • Tumuaki Tuarua



Staff Farewells

Head of Faculty Marg Jones said that he quickly formed positive relationships with the students by going out of his way to get to know them, their names, and what was happening in their lives.

Duncan was instrumental in starting up Science Fair with his Year 9 classes with good success, as well as getting Science Badges up and running across the junior classes. Outside of class, Duncan coached the Fussball team and took them to their games every week.

Duncan is a teacher passionate about Science, who wants to inspire students to be curious about what Science has to offer. His contribution has been greatly appreciated and we wish him the best for his future career in teaching.

Parental Leave

Two of our teaching staff have recently uplifted their parental leave entitlement and are wished well for their new future.

Hannah Young

Hannah currently concluded her position at College at the end of August. Her inputs and hard work as a Physical Education teacher, Head of Department Health, and Assistant Head of Junior School will certainly be missed. They have been much appreciated, alongside extra-curricular contributions including 1st XI Girls' Hockey coaching and managing over a number of years.

Julia Bell

Julia finishes her current term, tomorrow, as teacher of Dance and English. In these roles, and particularly through Dance, Julia has been instrumental in providing many opportunities for students. Through her own significant talents in this area, staff and students have had the benefit of her choreographing skills for a variety and number of presentations; while Green House students have enjoyed and appreciated her vitality and enthusiasm in her role as Green House Staff Leader. Julia has certainly involved herself well in the life and work of the College.

Information

Homestay Families Being Sought for International Students

Within College's international student programme, we are delighted to be welcoming students back to College, and to Ashburton.

As a result we are now able to increase our Homestay Family numbers.

Placements can be for a few weeks, a few months, or longer - we work around what works best for you.

Generally there is only one student in the home

but there are occasions when two students wish to be in a home together.

Although our focus is on 2023,

we may also need homestay families in Term 4.

A weekly payment is made for these placements.

If you think that you would be able to welcome a student into your home, and/or want to find out more information

please contact our International Department personnel:

Michelle Hosking (Director) – hg@ashcoll.school.nz; or

Tania Rule (Administration) – rl@ashcoll.school.nz

Michelle or Tania can arrange to talk or meet with you.

Many families have made life-long connections

with the students they have hosted.

If you think you may be interested we would love to hear from you.

Events

Cultural Language Weeks held at College during August

Information provided by Lucas Vainerere, Head of Cultural Committee

In the month of August, Ashburton College hosted two language weeks - to celebrate the culture and language of the Cook Islands and the Philippines.

Cook Islands Language Week took place from Sunday 31 July-Saturday 06 August

Located in the South Pacific Ocean, the Cook Islands is a self-governing country that comprises fifteen different islands. With a total population of approximately 17,500 people, the primary language of the Cook Islands is Cook Islands Māori. More commonly referred to as Te Epetoma o Te Ro Kuki Airani.

At Ashburton College, we celebrated this week by hosting small-scale events such as quizzes, cultural dress-ups and dance performances.



(Pictured left): The group who performed to the students in Te Whare Manaaki.

(Back row, left to right): Nguahia Maeva, Christine Tomokino, Naupara Strickland, Lucas Vainerere, Jasmine Matangaro, Rere Strickland, Jacob Olsen (Te Whare Manaaki student).

(Front row, left to right): Mina Mataiti, Stacey Cooper, Mere Apaipo.

The week opened by the raising of the Cook Islands flag on the flagpole, by one of our Cook Islands students. This event is ceremonial and helped promote the week ahead at the school.

Events

The following day, a group of students travelled to different schools in our local community to perform. Some of the locations that they visited were Rising Stars Pre-school, Ashburton Borough School and Phoenix Pre-school. Many children enjoyed the presentation and joined in one of the activities called 'Ura Pau' which translates to 'drum dance'.

On the Wednesday and Thursday of that week, members of the Cultural Committee joined in with the festivities in a fun interview with random students and teachers at break times. Each person was quizzed on their knowledge of the Cook Islands and the language.

To conclude this week-long celebration, all of our Cook Island students dressed up into their cultural attire called 'Tav'. This marked the end of Cook Islands Language Week.



(Pictured above): With their Language Week sign.

(Back row, left to right): Nguahia Maeva (Cultural Committee member), Naupara Strickland, Lucas Vainerere (Cultural Committee Head), Jasmine Matangaro.

(Front row, left to right): Mina Mataiti, Rere Strickland, Christine Tomokino, Mere Apaipo.

Filipino Language Week

Also celebrated in August was a new initiative introduced by the Cultural Committee this year, was Filipino Language Week.

The idea was brought about due to a lack of cultural recognition for one of our growing ethnicities within Ashburton. The Ashburton District has become home to a growing Filipino community, with many students at our school identifying with this particular demographic.

The date that was set for this week was carefully chosen in reference to other language weeks that were happening this term, but also an appropriate time for the celebration.

Known as Buwan ng Wika (National Language Month) in the Philippines, the month-long celebration aims to uphold the language of the Philippines and is held annually in the month of August.

The Cultural Committee agreed that the last full week of August would be a suitable time period for Filipino Language Week and a grand celebration.

Ashburton College celebrated Filipino Week from Tuesday 23 August-Friday 26 August.

The week officially began on Tuesday because of the Teacher-Only-Day on the Monday. Year 13 Filipino student Gena Prado was given the opportunity to raise the flag at morning interval to kick off the week. The flag bears great cultural significance and pride to our Filipino students.

As this is the first time for the new initiative at Ashburton College, many students turned out to see the flag being raised.

(Pictured right, left to right): At the raising of the flag are Lucas Vainerere, Gena Prado and Nguahia Maeva.

The following day, traditional games were set up on the chessboard for students to participate in. For many Filipino students, it was very nostalgic and allowed them to reflect on their childhoods when they grew up in the Philippines. It was amazing to see how many students turned up in support of this event.



(Pictured left): The game of Chinese Garter, with Dean/Teacher Jason Vannini being put through the paces.

Filipino students, **Ionnie Ranay** and **Julianna Apoldo**, worked together to organise a group of interested students who could perform some of their traditional dances. These students performed on Thursday 25 August at local schools and pre-schools, and were featured in the newspaper.

At the end of the week, some of our Filipino students came to school dressed in their cultural attire. For the boys, this was a patterned, long-sleeved shirt called a 'barong', and for girls, a traditional dress called 'baro't saya'.

(Pictured right): The group of students pictured in their cultural attire.



Staff Farewells

Patrick Sandrey

Patrick Sandrey started teaching at Ashburton College at the end of January 2020. Patrick joined a number of College returnee staff, also having been a student here previously. His sunny personality and outgoing nature have been much appreciated by both staff and students.

Head of Social Science Faculty said that it has been great to see Patrick grow professionally, with his students enjoying his caring and supportive approach to teaching and learning. He has been passionate about History and Social Sciences and how important that learning is for all students.

The Social Science Faculty has appreciated his willingness to get involved, contribute and support numerous initiatives and events. This is equally so for his extra-curricular involvements and contributions. Patrick has been an enthusiastic participant in the College Staff v Student events, fundraising activities including 'dunk the teacher' and a valuable coach of the Girls' 1st XI Football team.

College is appreciative of the energy and expertise given during his time with us. He will be missed for his contributions and for who he is as a person. We do, however, wish him well in his new employment outside of teaching.

Duncan McKee

Duncan has been in a Fixed-Term Maternity Leave Science teaching position since the beginning of this year. He is described as having had a big impact on the Science Faculty and wider school.



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(Pictured right): Aleck Ricamor with her wonderfully presented art work.



Lucas said that, overall, the month of August was very successful in regards to the celebrations of the two language weeks.

He concluded by saying that Ashburton College is proud to represent its indigenous cultures and works towards displaying them throughout the academic school year.

Events

Outdoor Education Trips

While recently, in our newsletters, we have been busy focusing on sports exchanges and Winter Sports Tournament Week; many curricular activities have also been taking place. Two of these were the tramp trips for Year 11 and 12 Outdoor Education classes. Outdoor Education teacher Luke Martin summarises these two trips.

Year 12 Hike to Mt Somers

The Year 12 Outdoor Education class went on their second-to-last trip of the year from 15-18 August. This trip was originally scheduled for the St James Trail, Lewis Pass, for the three days; but the adverse weather at that time meant the loop around Mt Somers was the safer option. This area also provided greater options to get out if need be.

With the weather forecast predicting rain for all three days, Luke said they didn't have high expectations for some nice weather. However, once again, the group hit the jackpot and the rain held off until the last day.

The first two days saw plenty of snow and made for some fun walking through, not knowing what each step would bring - with the options being ankle-deep, knee-deep or waist-deep snow. This was very much the case between Pinnacles and Woolshed Creek Huts.



(Left to right): Luke Martin (Teacher), Mason Bird, Danielle Faichnie, Chloe Rutledge, Vince Cabading, Kaiwhaiki Peetitumango, Simon Moore.

Staying in the huts gave everybody the chance to rest up and enjoy a few card games while the fire did its job keeping us warm.

It was great to see all students improve their hiking skills over the three days and taking on board advice from each other, as well as learning from their own mistakes.



(Pictured right, left and right): Taking a rest after some tough snow walking are Vince Cabading and Simon Moore.

Year 11 Outdoor Education Hike to Mt Thomas

The Year 11 Outdoor Education class also had their second-to-last trip of the year, for two days on 25 and 26 August. This was a hike up and down Mt Thomas, in the Mt Thomas Forest Conservation Area, to be followed by camping at the Wooded Gully campground.

On arrival it was a surprise to see the campground closed due to the amount of rain in the weeks previous. However, Luke said, a quick phone call and all was sorted for them to camp at Ashley Gorge, which he described as a beautiful spot, even in the rain.

The class was fortunate to dodge the rain on the hike, but not so much the cold or the dull grey skies which led to some non-existent views at this trip! Luke noted that the class has worked well all year as a group and this trip was no different, with students looking out for each other and helping when needed.

Once arriving at the campsite, it was tent set-up and dinner preparation time. By this stage the rain was just starting, so getting the tents up was priority. The class showed they were seasoned 'pros' and tents went up with no issues.

That night, with the heavy rain, it was certainly chilling out in their tents, and several students opted for the indoor area to play some cards. However, by morning, the rain was nearly moving away. The tents had survived, and none of the students complained about getting wet.

Events



(Pictured above): Students at the top.

(Back row, left to right): Katie Ashworth, Sienna Skilling, Gracie Trotter, Jack Bull, Zac Douglas, Elliott Ward, Charlie Scammell, Noah Curwood, Sean McArthur, Dave Walker and Teacher Luke Martin.

(Middle row, left to right): E-J Elliott, Hannah Joyce, Melissa Watson, Hayley Smith, Keagan Nel, Will Watson, Josh Pitney.

(Front row, left to right): Zoe Cribb, Izzy Harris.

Congratulations

Podium Placings in Aoraki Secondary Schools' Mountain Bike Championships

Ashburton College had five riders at this event, held at Herbert Forest near Oamaru on Saturday 17 September.

Team members were: Keagan Nel, Oli Nicholls, Gracie Trotter, Riley Trotter, Seb van Rooyen; with Tabitha Armour as Coach/Manager.

Tabitha said that the day was split, with the Cross-Country event in the morning and the Enduro in the afternoon. Riders from thirteen schools participated, with Ashburton College gaining podium placings in both events.

Modern Cross-Country

Unlike downhill or enduro racing, modern Olympic cross-country racing (often known as XCO) is a mass start event, where riders complete laps of a track. This is perfect for spectators as they get to see the riders multiple times.

A typical cross-country race track will usually consist of some climbing, descending and flatter singlettrack sections. Lap length will vary from race to race, but 4 to 5km per lap is fairly common. Each race will have a set number of laps and first across the line wins. The number of laps completed depend on age and experience.

Enduro

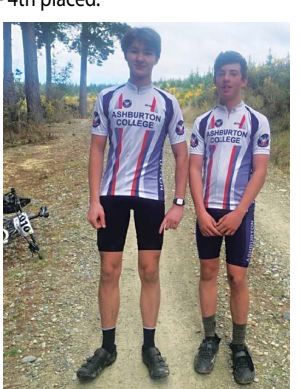
Enduro races are made up of multiple downhill stages, which are timed to generate the event's result, while the uphill is 'liaisons'. Here, riders have to reach the start of the next stage within a time limit but, providing a rider meets that time limit, the actual time doesn't contribute to the final result.

The fine set of results were -

Cross-Country:

College had two riders in the Cross-Country, with great efforts and outcomes by Keagan Nel and Seb van Rooyen.

Under 17 Boys' Grade: Keagan Nel - 2nd placed; Seb van Rooyen - 4th placed.



(Pictured right, left and right): Keagan Nel and Seb van Rooyen, after the Cross-Country.

Enduro

After lunch Seb got back on the bike for the Enduro and was joined by Oli Nicholls in the Under 17 Boys' category; Gracie Trotter (Under 17 Girls), and Riley Trotter (Under 15 Boys).

The riders tackled three downhill tracks and produced some great results.

Under 17 Boys: Oli Nicholls - 1st placed, Seb van Rooyen - 4th placed.

In this event Oli registered the fastest time of the day.

Under 17 Girls: Gracie Trotter - 1st placed.

Under 15 Boys: Riley Trotter - 9th placed.



(Pictured above, left to right): Oli Nicholls, Riley Trotter, Gracie Trotter and Seb van Rooyen about to start the Enduro event.

Congratulations

E-sports Team Achieved Nationals Status

Two after-school College esports teams have just finished this season's regional competition, with the Phoenix team members advancing to the National Final.

Through the season the teams played in the NZ HSESL (New Zealand High School esports League). This was a nationwide competition that featured game titles such as League of Legends (which is what we had a team entered for), Rocket League and Valorant.

The country is divided into regions, with College competing in the South Island region, while the North Island was split into Auckland and Wellington regions.

All regions had two divisions, with College's Phoenix team being put into Division 1. This was the format for pool play, through which each team played each other twice before the top four teams from each pool moved on to a regional finals format.

Each region and division had approximately eight teams per pool, just like in the South Island.

Team members were -

Team Phoenix members, with their roles: Henry Wallis (top), Jade Jung (Captain, jungle), Matthew Wong (mid), Jordan Green (adc), Hamish Lyth (support).

Team Ad Victoriam members with their roles: Neiv Sol (top), Connor Rogers (jungle), Conner Stewart (mid), Adam Goudie (adc), Ron Naui (Captain, support), Lucas Wong (sub), Ryan Heal (sub).

Team Phoenix went unbeaten in Pool Play and finished top of Pool A. They competed against two Burnside High School teams, Wakatipu High School, Roncalli College and Ao Tawhiti Unlimited Discovery School (Christchurch).

Team Ad Victoriam finished fourth in Pool B.

Teacher and Coach Tom Kitchen said that both advanced to the Regional Finals where they came up against each other in the first match! Phoenix was top seed coming out of the group stage and Ad Victoriam bottom seed.

Phoenix won the game convincingly to move on to the next round, while Ad Victoriam were then knocked out of the competition.

South Island Second Overall

Phoenix played another game against Burnside High School who they lost to, meaning they finished second overall in the South Island. This meant they were South Island's second seed when they competed in Nationals earlier this month.

Nationals

Phoenix played against Tauranga Boys' College in the first round of the National Finals and were narrowly beaten 2-1 in a best of 3 games.

The national finals are still ongoing, with the grand final being played live in Auckland at the SkyCity Sports Arena from 07-09 October.

Tom said that it is worth noting that the Burnside High School team that finished top of the South Island made it all the way to the finals.

Forthcoming Events

September	
25-01 Oct	Tuvalu Language Week
29	Non-Uniform Day: Purple Shirt Day, to support Mental Health Dodgeball - Staff vs Students Year 12 Geography Research, Ashburton Year 13 Classics Field Trip, University of Canterbury, Teece Museum trip, Christchurch Lincoln University Course Planning
30	End of Term Three
30-16	Student Holiday break
October	
01-03	National Schools' Road Cycling, Fielding
02	Smallbore Interschools Shoot, Rangiora
02-08	Fijian Language Week
03-08	New Zealand Secondary Schools' Basketball' A' National Championships, Palmerston North
11-12	South Island and National Cycling Track Championships, Invercargill
13-16	National Schools MTB Championships, Bluff
17	First day of Term Four
16-22	Final Language Week
20	Final School Assembly, Chessboard
21	Chess - Staff vs Student Executive, Chessboard Winning House assembly, Auditorium
23-29	Tokelau Language Week
24	Labour Day Public Holiday
2022 End-of-Year Final Days, Prize-Givings, Events	
Parents, caregivers, family/whānau, friends and interested community members are most welcome at the Awards Ceremony and Prize-givings.	
October	
31	Year 13 final day. Students finish at 1:20pm. Year 13 Graduation Ceremony, Ashburton Event Centre, 7:30pm.
November	
03	Year 12 final day. Students finish at 1:20pm. Year 11 final day. Students finish at 3:05pm. Year 11 and 12 Prize-Giving (Combined), Ashburton Event Centre, 7:00pm.
December	
04	Leavers' Graduation Dinner, Hotel Ashburton, arrive at 6:30pm, seated at 7:00pm.
Tbc	Year 9 and 10 Prize-Giving dates and times.