



### Head of Senior School Message

#### Welcome

I would like to welcome all our ākonga, and especially the senior students back to College. The last few weeks have been full-on leading the ākonga into meaningful courses that place on to their future pathways, confirming leadership roles being applied for and getting the Youth Driver Mentor Programme back up and running.

#### Pastoral Care System

At Ashburton College we use a collaborative approach to pastoral care from all staff members, which allows for individual student 'Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment', according to the College's Mission Statement.

The pastoral care network includes the Heads and Assistant Heads of School, Senior and Junior Deans, Guidance Counsellors, Ako Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Heads of Faculty, Careers Co-ordinator and Learning Support Co-ordinators. These staff members all work together to ensure that our students' needs are met while at school.

#### Key Staff Profiles (Senior School)

These staff are available to help students with a range of issues, whether pastoral, attendance or academic. Parents/caregivers are welcome to contact to discuss any concerns.

#### Deputy Principal - Mr Hannibal Ikahihifo

Hannibal has appointed Deputy Principal at Ashburton College in 2022 and has responsibility for Pastoral Care. Hannibal is also a specialist teacher of Health and Physical Education. Email - [ikh@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:ikh@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Head of Senior School - Mrs Abbey Bruce

Appointed Head of Senior School in 2020 and has responsibility for the Senior School - Year 11, 12 and 13 students. Specialises in Agricultural Science, Science and Biology. Email - [br@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:br@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Assistant Head of Senior School - Ms Liz Carrick

Liz has been at College since 2013. During this time she has been in various roles, including as a Dean for the last few years. Liz is also in charge of the Senior Foundation studies programme. Email - [ce@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:ce@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Senior Dean - Mr Jason Vannini (Year 11 Dean)

Jason has taught Mathematics and Economics at Ashburton College since 2011. He is College's Prize-giving Co-ordinator and Manager of the Boys' 1st XI Hockey team. Email - [vn@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:vn@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Senior Dean - Ms Natalie Hayes (Year 12 Dean)

Natalie has been at the College since 2021. She teaches in the Science Department and specialises in Biology. She has been a Dean previously at her past schools, and joined the College pastoral team late last year. Email - [hs@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:hs@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Senior Dean - Mr Luke Martin (Year 13 Dean)

Luke moved down to Ashburton from the North Island and has been at Ashburton College since 2019. He specialises in Physical Education and Health, and is teacher-in-charge of Outdoor Education. Email - [mt@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:mt@ashcoll.school.nz)

#### Future Pathways

Over the last few weeks the Senior Pastoral Team has been working closely with students to ensure they are selecting the subjects that will lead them onto their chosen pathway. For some, they will know exactly what their career pathway will look like; for others, they will not know where to start and will need guidance from school, adults, or mentors.

This is why the Senior Pastoral Team and the Transition Team put a large emphasis into ensuring that students are informed, skilled and connected in order to plan and reach their career pathways after they leave Ashburton College.

Over the next few months students will have many opportunities to experience and explore different pathways for their post-secondary school years. For example: AshColl Tertiary Day, Careers Expo, Ara Early Childhood, UC Pacific Outreach, Canterbury University on campus, and Ara on campus.

It is important that students read the Ako Notices that come out each Friday, to keep updated and informed.



#### Leadership Roles

Over the last few weeks Year 13 students have presented speeches to be selected as House Captains or on the Student Executive. These speeches have been of a very high calibre and have shown the passion and drive these students have for AshColl.

Also during this time, the House Executives and Student Executive Committees have been selected. These are comprised of Year 12 and Year 13 students.

**This year, the Student Executive's mission is to:** Increase school pride by creating a safe and welcoming environment that encourages all students to thrive and reach their individual excellence.

All of these student leaders must show the AshColl Way at all times, by Achieving Quality, Showing Pride and Having Respect.

#### Youth Driver Mentor Programme - College South Island Leaders in the Programme

One important skill that improves job prospects is holding a restricted or full driver's licence.

A 2016 report, sponsored by ACC and Waka Kotahi/New Zealand Transport Agency, looked at the impact of having a driver's licence. The report found that 70 per cent of jobs required a licence and just 9 per cent of beneficiaries aged between 18 and 24 held a full licence. That is a big problem for young people looking for work.

Ashburton College, in partnership with The Salvation Army and Waka Kotahi, are excited to be part of the 'Youth Driver Mentor Programme'. This is the first time this programme has been run in a South Island school.

The Youth Driver Mentor Programme matches our students who have their Learner Driver's Licence with Fully Licensed volunteer mentors who coach and teach safe driving practice and skills so the driver can pass their Restricted Driver's Test. A student will go out twice a week with a mentor to learn self-awareness, road-awareness, personal responsibility and self-confidence.

We have a list of students already registered, we have the support for the mentors, we have a car but **We Need Mentors! We Need You!**

#### What Mentors do:

- Help a learner driver prepare for the Restricted Driver's Test.
  - Volunteer to supervise the learner's driving and help them become safer on our roads.
  - Act as a coach and supervisor for a range of practical driving experiences.
  - Help foster positive safe habits that will follow the learner throughout their lifetime of driving.
  - Transform lives.
- What is required of Mentors:**
- Meet up twice a week for 1 hour with your student (times that work for you) for twelve weeks.
  - Have held your Full licence for more than two years.
- What the Mentor receives:**
- Use of the programme's automatic car and fuel.
  - Full training.
  - The support of a qualified instructor and will be given the tools to assist the learner driver.
  - A chance to help make our students more employable.

Please help us make this programme a success and help our students! **Become part of the solution.** You can help make our roads safer and support our young people to do the right thing.

Please contact Anne Sheehan ([sn@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:sn@ashcoll.school.nz)) or Abbey Bruce ([br@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:br@ashcoll.school.nz)).

#### In Conclusion

The Senior Pastoral team and myself look forward to guiding the senior students through their schooling this year, and wish them all the best for the year ahead.

Abbey Bruce  
Head of Senior School

### Events

#### Welcome to Year 9 Students -

#### Peer Support Programme

On Thursday 02 February we welcomed approximately 290 Year 9 students to the start of their secondary schooling years at College.

To support the settling-in process, Ashburton College annually runs a Peer Support Programme where a group of Year 12 students work alongside the Year 9 students, during Term One.

#### Counsellor and Peer Support Programme Co-ordinator

**Andrew Shepherd** said that there were eighty Year 12 students preparing for 2023, which is a very good turnout, following the three years impacted on by Covid. These students offered their time, which included a two-day Peer Support Leader training programme, with staff, on Thursday and Friday 26 and 27 January before their school year began. From this, the student leaders gain a range of leadership skills.

**Special thanks is given to staff members** Andrew Shepherd (Co-ordinator), Susie Amos, Penny Bayley, Jess Bennett, Mieke Brook, Amy Dean, Jonah Drye, Michelle Hosking, Tom Kitchen, Annie Lees, James List, Kirsty Moffett, Jessica Sharpe, Josh Sim, Jason Vannini; as key staff leaders of these two days.



(Pictured above): Students who had practised making clothing from newspapers, in preparation for facilitating the same group activity with the Year 9 students (pictured, left to right): Iela Mangubat, Moana Moore, Mollie McLauchlan, Tessa Wright, Leah Reid, Maafala Faamausili, Jack Ellis, Chloe Braas, Emily Simons, Riley Broker, Leigha Fletcher, Sam Kingsbury.

Throughout Term One the Peer Support Student Leaders continue to work with the group of Year 9 students they are responsible for, helping to grow their communication, problem-solving and teamwork skills. Each Year 9 core class has five fortnightly sessions with their leaders.

#### The Peer Support Programme Aims are about -

- making links between people
- supporting, understanding and accepting each other
- being both a leader and a friend to their group

#### Day One Programme

John Cook, Head of Junior School, said that day one for the students went very well.

The students' day started with a welcome assembly in the Auditorium, followed by events based with their Ako teacher and class group, which included guided tours of the College; 'Getting to Know You' activities; receiving Information Booklets; having their individual photos taken; setting up devices and logging online; learning about the AshColl Way; an Ako Class Scavenger Hunt competition; the Pōwhiri Period 3 and taking part in the Peer Support Programme Period 5.

Throughout the day students were engaged, polite, followed instructions well, were up to time and didn't get lost! Staff indicated it was an enjoyable day for all involved.

**A huge thank you goes to** Head of Junior School John Cook and the Junior team of Anna Rimmer (Assistant Head of Junior School) and Junior Deans Sue Johnstone, James List and Guy Smith for their work in spearheading this day, and making it so positive for our incoming students, alongside all additional staff who were involved.

**Luke Martin**  
**Cheyenne Parris**  
**Anna Rimmer**  
**Natalie Hayes**  
**Jessica Sharpe**  
**Helen Shore-Taylor**

AshColl Way Lead Teacher  
Teacher-in-Charge Vocational English  
Assistant Head of Junior School  
Senior Dean (Year 12)  
Teacher-in-Charge, Junior Science  
Continuing as Acting Head of Department  
Home Economics

**Courtenay Soper**  
**Sean Stephen**  
**Debbie van Rooyen**

Head of Green House  
Head of Department Hard Materials  
Has released Gateway Co-ordinator/Trades role, but retained Ag Academy sector.

#### Leave

Over time, a number of staff uplift their parental leave entitlement and we have wished the following staff members all the very best, alongside of sincere appreciation for their significant contributions to the life and work of the College.

**Julia Bell** Head of Department, Dance  
**Rachel Hood** Teacher of Physical Education  
**Hannah White** Learning Support Co-ordinator, AshColl Way Leader  
**Hannah Young** Assistant Head of Junior School, Head of Department Health.

### Staff - Internal Appointments

In addition to new staff shown in last week's newsletter there have been a number of internal staff appointments, involving a change of, or additional, portfolios. Some were in place later last year, while others were for the commencement of this year.

We acknowledge these below, with congratulations.



**Delia Achten**  
Library Services  
Manager,  
formerly Librarian.



**Sarah Bartlett**  
Teacher of  
Social Studies,  
formerly Librarian.



**Clair Bedward**  
e-Dean  
plus retaining teaching  
role (Accounting,  
Business Studies).



**Cheyenne George**  
Librarian, formerly  
Learning Support  
Assistant, Mainstream.



**Leigh Heaney-Lee**  
International Students  
Homestay Co-ordinator,  
plus retaining teaching  
role (Social Sciences,  
Food and Nutrition).

#### Additional changes/additions to portfolios are:

**Alice Clark** 3IC English Faculty  
**Georgia Hurley** (née Keenan) 2IC English Faculty  
**Olivia McLennan** Learning Support Assistant, Junior Students,  
Mainstream (formerly Learning Support  
Assistant, Te Whare Manaaki)



### Congratulations

#### College Rowing Successes at the Meridian South Island Club Championships

The Ashburton College Rowing Team had a short break over Christmas but has all staff been training hard most mornings and some afternoons at Lake Hood.

College teacher Kirsty Moffett said that a twenty four-strong rowing squad headed to Twizel from 27-29 January for the South Island Club Championships. The team, inclusive of Ashburton Rowing Club and College student members, had a fantastic day with twenty eight crews entered in races on Saturday, inclusive of some last minute substitutions for injured rowers Isabel Wall and Mia Chambers.

#### Medal and A Finals Results Summary

**A great day's racing on Saturday in hot conditions led to impressive results, with seventeen crews qualifying for A Finals and nine crews qualifying for B Finals. Finals day on Sunday brought hot conditions but the Ashburton rowers performed well for some epic results.**

#### Medal Results

- Gold Medal** - Sophie Gibson, Single Open Sculls
- Silver Medal** - Tim Connelly-Whyte and Izacc Carr, Intermediate Men's Double Sculls
- Silver Medal** - Penny Marriott, Ruby Patterson, Maddie Marshall, Ally Thomas with Cox Lily Davidson in the Novice Coxed Quad Sculls
- Bronze Medal** - Sienna Skilling and Rosa Armstrong in the Under 17 Double Sculls



(Pictured left): Sophie Gibson, Gold Medal Winner.

(Pictured below, left and right): Silver Medalists Tim Connelly-Whyte and Izacc Carr.



(Pictured above, left to right): Novice Coxed Quad Sculls Silver Medalists Maddie Marshall, Penny Marriott, Ruby Patterson, Ally Thomas, Lily Davidson (Cox).



(Pictured right, left and right): Rosa Armstrong and Sienna Skilling Under 17 Double Sculls Bronze Medalists.

#### Additional A Finals College Rowers Qualifiers were -

**Penny Marriott and Maddie Marshall** Women's Novice Double Sculls 4th placed

**Tim Connelly-Whyte** Men's Intermediate Single Sculls 4th placed

**Sienna Skilling, Rosa Armstrong, Sophie Gibson, Honor Bradford, Cox Lily Davidson** Women's Under 19 Coxed Quad Sculls 5th placed

**Maddie Marshall, Penny Marriott, Ally Thomas, Ruby Patterson, Cox Lily Davidson** Women's Novice Coxed Four 6th placed

**Drew Gilbert, Caleb Armstrong** Men's Novice Double Sculls 6th placed

**Drew Gilbert, Peter Armstrong (club rower), Joel Moffett, Caleb Armstrong, Cox Izacc Carr** Men's Novice Coxed Quad Sculls 6th placed

**Peter Armstrong (club rower), Joel Moffett, Drew Gilbert, Caleb Armstrong, Cox Lily Davidson** Men's Novice Coxed Four 7th placed

**Jordy McGillen, Ashton Brook, Charlie Howden, Travis Amos, Cox Lily Davidson** Boys' Under 16 Coxed Quad Sculls 7th placed

**Sienna Skilling, Jemma Bent, Sophie Gibson, Honor Bradford** Women's club Coxless Quad Sculls 7th placed

**Jordy McGillen, Ashton Brook** Men's Intermediate Double Sculls 7th placed

**Rosa Armstrong, Isla Connelly-Whyte, Mia Chambers, Leah Reid, Cox Lily Davidson** Girls' Under 17 Coxed Quad Sculls 8th placed

**Jemma Bent, Honor Bradford** Girls' Under 17 Double Sculls 9th placed

**Ruby Patterson, Ally Thomas** Women's Novice Double Sculls 10th placed



The Ashburton Rowing Club crew (back row, left to right): Caleb Armstrong, Charlie Howden, Joel Moffett, Drew Gilbert, Jordy McGillen, Travis Amos, Leah Reid, Isabel Wall, Izacc Carr, Tim Connelly-Whyte, Ged Wall (Club rower), Justin Wall (Coach).

(Middle Row, left to right): Pete Armstrong (club rower), Rosa Armstrong, Maddie Marshall, Penny Marriott, Ally Thomas, Honor Bradford, Ruby Leverton, Sophie Gibson, Sienna Skilling

(Front row, left to right): Isla Connelly-Whyte, Lily Davidson, Ruby Patterson.

#### Balance of Season

Training intensity will not let up for the squad, with a Junior Regatta scheduled at Lake Hood in late February and the South Island Secondary Schools' Championships in March, with the team aiming for yet more successes.

#### Ashburton College 2023 Year 9 Academic Scholarship Winners Sid (Kiko) Ciron and Georgia Scammell

The Year 9 Academic Scholarships were established in 2004 by the Ashburton College Board of Trustees, with up to two scholarships awarded annually.

Awardees are selected at the end of the previous year via two examination tests, one in English and one in Mathematics.

The scholarships are open to any Year 8 student who is a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, and who applies for entry to Year 9 at Ashburton College in the following year.

**Sid, or Kiko** as he is known by, is a former St Joseph's School student.

He said he was 'confused' when he got the news as he didn't expect to be a recipient as he had found the exams 'pretty hard', but he was excited.

**Georgia** comes to College from Ashburton Intermediate, and was 'quite surprised' with the outcome, saying she wasn't initially going to put a scholarship application in but did so because a friend was. She too said she found the exams hard.

Both students are looking to put the scholarship funding towards future educational costs.



#### New Zealand Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships Experience

**This prestigious athletics event was held at the end of the 2022 school year, from 09-11 December, in Inglewood, Taranaki.**

Ashburton College was pleased to have Year 9 student (at that time) Toby Grant representing us, at what was his first outing at this event and a great experience-builder for Toby.

Toby is coached by Mike Thomas, Mieke Hendie and Adam Blake; and Stacey Grant was Manager for this meet. Toby's programme at the event was multi-disciplinary, all in the Junior Boys' category, across Discus, Shotput, Long Jump and 100m.

Stacey Grant noted that, at the time of entry, there were no event clashes but, unfortunately a few days prior the Long Jump event time was changed to be run as a straight final, despite having thirty-two competitors. This provided a challenge as it led to the Shot Put and Long Jump occurring at the same time. Toby then had to manage doing one jump in spikes and changing shoes to perform one Shot Put throw. This process was repeated for each jump and the last three of his throws.

#### Creditable Results

Given these constraints, Toby managed very well, reaching the top 8 in the Shot Put, meaning a further three throws. Toby finished in a very creditable 6th place with a throw of 12.41m, and was one of only three Year 9 students to make the top 8. Toby indicated he was pleased with this outcome considering it was only the start of the athletics season. His final placing was impacted on, also, when his biggest throw, which would have placed him in the top three, was mistakenly red-flagged and his mark had gone by the time officials went to rectify the error. Toby was given another opportunity to throw but unfortunately, as can be understood, this throw didn't land as well as the previous one.

The to-ing and fro-ing had some impact on Toby's concentration for the Long Jump but, again, he performed with credit, finishing around mid-field with a jump of 5.45m.

(Pictured right): Toby in Long-Jump action.

Within a field of forty three competitors in the 100m, Toby ran a time of 12.51, and also achieved in the top third of the Discus field, with a 7th placing and a throw of 41.27m.

Doubtless he is keen now to build on the experiences gained. Currently, Toby is awaiting confirmation of a Long Jump record with the South Canterbury Amateur Athletics Club for his distance of 5.68m reached at the Lovelock Classic 2023.



### Information

#### Orientation Morning Activity Displays/Exciting Opportunities for Students to become Involved

Next Wednesday 22 February

College Chessboard, 10:45am - 11:25am

On this day students have the opportunity to view forty-five to fifty display stands of activities available, through the College and community groups, and register interest in what they might like to be involved in during this year, and beyond.

College welcomes and encourages students joining in College life, and Orientation Day provides a great chance to see the wide range of activities on offer.



Parents/caregivers might like to encourage their student to consider how they could become involved in the many opportunities offered by the College and Community Groups who contribute to the life and work of the College.

The  
AshColl  
Way

