



Message From The Principal

Rangitata Block

Progress is being made on our new Rangitata Block roof and weather-proofing, after which tradespeople will be able to undertake interior fit-out work.

At this stage we are still aiming to have this block ready for handover in November.

If your child is currently in Years 9-12 then they will have lessons in that block next year.

My thanks to our community and students for accommodating the disruptions caused to our normal campus movements. We appreciate everybody's understanding.

PPTA Industrial Action

We apologise that the current industrial action by PPTA members is causing disruption to our normal teaching and meeting programmes. The regional strike day this week was a signal that PPTA Union Members are determined to gain better settlement conditions.

Staffing in New Zealand Schools

As international travel has resumed this has increased the pressure on staffing in New Zealand schools. Many of our younger teachers had previously delayed their OE's but are now looking to travel.

Like nurses, there is a global shortage of teachers and many of them may be tempted to take their skills offshore.

Winter Sports Season

The winter sports season has begun and once again we are incredibly blessed by community members and staff who are willing to step up and help. I understand the level of commitment that is required to help with any team.

However, the sense of satisfaction and enjoyment that comes from helping young people fulfil their potential cannot be underestimated. Once again, we have multiple teams in many competitions and many of our senior teams travel to gain peer competition outside of the Ashburton District. My thanks to everyone involved in any way with our winter teams.

Most of us can remember our high school years, even if often these are distant memories. However, it is often activities outside of the classroom that form our memories. Our students of today are no different, and involvement in sports, cultural or extra-curricular activities are another example of us living up to our Mission Statement. We provide the 'Supportive Learning Environment' so that our students can experience 'Individual Excellence'.



Ross Preece
Principal - Tumuaki

Information

Ashburton College – Pasifika Whānau/Family Fono

Pasifika Second Whānau/Family Fono
Thursday 01 June
5:30pm – 7:00pm
Ashburton College Staffroom

This evening will have a focus on unpacking how NCEA works, and introducing the Talanoa Ako App
(an interactive educational App for Pacific parents, developed by New Zealand's Ministry of Education).

The evening is facilitated by Gabby Makisi, Manager, Strategy and Integration, Te Pae Aronui.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

These are scheduled for Tuesday 23 May, at the Hotel Ashburton, from 12 noon to 8:30pm. Please note classes will not operate this day.

The interviews are for all year levels, with the exclusion of Year 9 option subjects. Further information, and booking processes will follow, and be advised to families.

It is expected that students attend with their parents/caregivers, in order to be part of the three-way conversation.

Term Dates 2023 –

Term Two		- Friday 30 June
Term Three	Monday 17 July	- Friday 22 September
	(Note: Friday 25 August-Mid Term Break)	
Term Four	Monday 09 October	- Thursday 26 October (Year 13)
		- Tuesday 31 October (Years 11/12)
		- Tuesday 12 December (Years 9 and 10)

Information

PPTA Industrial Action for Secondary Schools – Remaining Dates

As advised in last week's newsletter, PPTA, the Secondary Teachers' Union, has announced further industrial action during Term 2. This includes rostering home of year level groups as well as a further Strike Day for union members.

Information has been sent to families.

Next Rostering Home Days:

Tuesday 16 May - Year 9 (this includes Year 9 Te Whare Manaaki and Kōhanga students)

Wednesday 17 May - Year 10 (this includes Year 10 Te Whare Manaaki and Kōhanga students)

School buses will run as usual.

Further information:

External courses (e.g. Gateway, Ara, work placements etc) will run as normal, unaffected by rostering home.

The Community Entry Programme will remain open, unaffected by rostering home or strike days. A separate email has been sent to CEP students and caregivers advising them of this.

If a settlement is reached:

Please be aware – if there is settlement between the Ministry of Education and the PPTA, and the PPTA Union Rostering Home or Strike does not occur, this will be communicated to you electronically.

We acknowledge that this is disruptive and we appreciate and thank you for your understanding.

Events

Head Students Represent College at ANZAC Day Service

Ashburton College was again honoured to have their Head Students, Henry Thomas and Sarah Wilson, invited by RSA Ashburton to speak at the 11:00am Cenotaph Service on ANZAC Day. This has become an annual tradition and one which the College values.



(Pictured above, left and right): Henry Thomas and Sarah Wilson preparing to move forward to lay the College Wreath on the Cenotaph steps.

(Pictured right): Sarah presenting her speech to attendees.

Sarah Wilson

Sarah spoke of her Great, Great Uncle Patrick Joseph Daly, a farmhand from Hinds who left New Zealand to serve in the New Zealand expeditionary forces in World War 1. He was killed in action in June 1917, aged 24, at the Battle of Messines, Belgium. His name is on the Cenotaph.

Ian Gregory Wilson went from Wellington to the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1943, World War 2. He served on minesweepers in Dover, England clearing the channels for allied convoys but returned back to New Zealand from this dangerous job. He was Sarah's grandfather.

Sarah acknowledged, that, on April 25th - ANZAC Day - we pay tribute to those who served our country at war, by remembering and honouring them. She said that some of us on this day would be thinking about family members and ancestors who have been in the wars.

In a salutary statement she observed that, if the timelines were switched, it would be herself and many of her classmates being the ones saying goodbye or enlisting and that she could not comprehend the atrocities these men and women faced during the times of war and conflict.

The constant feeling of being on edge and not knowing if you're going to live to see the next day, living within poor and harsh conditions and the physical and mental traumas that weighed down many of those who returned, is only a small portion of the grim reality of what these soldiers, nurses, navy and airmen personnel faced.

Their courage, bravery in facing fear, and selflessness is the reason why we are standing here today, and for that we owe a debt of gratitude.

Sarah said that gathering on ANZAC morning, we were giving up part of our day to remember, thank and commemorate our ANZAC men and women - a small sacrifice in comparison to the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.



Events

In conclusion Sarah acknowledged also that ANZAC Day is a time to thank our current military personnel who put their lives at risk for the sake of our safety and security, as well as to safeguard our freedom.

Summarising, Sarah said that 'we must ensure ANZAC Day continues so that thousands of our brave men and women are not forgotten. Our ancestors' heroic stories need to be passed down, so that in generations to come, another great niece or granddaughter will commemorate them on this day. We Will Remember Them.

An interesting aside to Sarah's speech was meeting up with other members of the Daly family who were attending the service.



(Pictured left): Henry Thomas addressing the gathered, large crowd.

Henry Thomas

Henry opened with some history of the ANZACs saying that '108 years ago on 25 April 1915 approximately 3000 New Zealanders landed on the shores of Gallipoli. Some were as old as 67 and some as young as 14. These men put their lives on hold, confronting fear and showing great bravery in making their own sacrifices for New Zealand's future. We now honour ANZAC Day every year on this day to remember, acknowledge and thank those who sacrificed their lives for us today'.

Henry said that when he thinks of ANZAC Day he thinks of it as a time to remember and honour the brave soldiers who fought for our country, as a time of reflection and gratitude, and to remember the soldiers who showed bravery and courage.

In 1915 New Zealand was still a small and young colony of only 75 years, within the British Empire. Yet, by the end of the war in 1918, as a country, we had contributed to the allied victory greatly, given our contribution of soldier numbers per capita, based on our population of 1.1 million.

Henry, too, could refer to his family members' sacrifices. His Great, Great Uncle Douglas Boyd landed at Gallipoli on the sixth day of the campaign and was killed in action that day. Another Great, Great Uncle Norman Boyle, served at Gallipoli and also served on the western front, only to be killed in action at the Battle of the Somme. These young men and thousands of others were taken in their prime having made the ultimate sacrifice.

From a current generation's stand point, he said, 'imagine being eighteen years old and sent off to war, while just being old enough to start a career; or being a parent seeing your son taken away, not knowing when or whether he will return; or even seeing the returned soldiers with mental and physical scars struggling to get their lives back to normal'.

As he said, for himself, today, he could not visualise being shipped over to a foreign country not knowing if or when he was returning home. For some they saw it as an adventure but, in the realities of war, not everyone returns.

In closing, Henry said that, 'as we remember the ANZACs, we must also remember the countless others who have served our country, from the soldiers who fought in World Wars I and II, to the brave men and women who have served in more recent conflicts, we owe them our gratitude'.

Well-summarised, he acknowledged that while we were not there to glorify war, we were there to celebrate the many qualities of these young soldiers who fought for our future.

'On behalf of my generation today we thank these soldiers for the sacrifices they made. We shall never forget them. Let's we forget'.



Coming Events

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

May		
07-13	Routman Language Week	
08-14	Sign Language Week	
10-12	Year 13 Geography Kaikoura Field Trip	
12	* Mid Canterbury Sports Awards, Hotel Ashburton	
	NZ Careers Expo, Christchurch Arena, Addington, Christchurch	
	SCSS Boys'/Girls' Basketball Winter Competition,	
	Southern Trust Events Centre, Timaru	
13	Rugby Mid Canterbury Combined Boys' 1st XV	
16	* Aoraki Secondary Schools' Cross-Country, Timaru	
	Junior Boxing Programme, Mid Canterbury Boxing Academy	
17	Gateway First Aid Training	
	Rugby Girls' 1st XV vs Geraldine, Celtic Rugby Grounds	
	Rugby Girls' Under 15 vs Geraldine, Geraldine	
19	SCSS Boys'/Girls' Basketball Winter Competition,	
	Southern Trust Events Centre, Timaru	
23	Junior Boxing Programme, Mid Canterbury Boxing Academy	
	Parent/Teacher Interviews, Hotel Ashburton, 12:00pm-8:30pm	
24	Rugby Girls' 1st XV vs Craighead Diocesan School,	
	Geraldine, 4:30pm	
	Rugby Girls' Under 15 vs Craighead Diocesan School,	
	Methven, 4:30pm	
26-28	* NZSS Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships, Auckland	



Congratulations

Final Results from Summer Tournament Week

Following on from the last two weeks' newsletters we now look at excellent results from the Aon Maadi Cup Rowing Regatta and South Island Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships.

Hugely Successful AON New Zealand Secondary Schools' Maadi Cup Rowing Regatta for College Rowers

This prestigious pinnacle of the secondary school rowing season was held at Lake Karāpiro, from 27 March-01 April 2023, with Sunday 02 April as a 'spare' day. Hosted by Karāpiro Rowing, the regatta is run by the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Rowing Association and Rowing New Zealand, this is New Zealand's largest rowing regatta and the largest school sports event in the Southern Hemisphere.

College rowing liaison teacher Kirsty Moffett said that Maadi was a hugely successful regatta for our rowers, with many triumphant results from the small club and 23-strong team. The squad is congratulated on how they performed and conducted themselves during the regatta, being very positive representatives and ambassadors for Ashburton College.

The Maadi Cup was first raced for in 1947.

In 2023, 2,267 rowers donned their school colours, racing over 430 races for 52 events. 156 medals were spread over forty 49 schools and 28 different school rowers were crowned national secondary schools' champions, including Ashburton College. 113 secondary schools participated this year.



(Pictured above): College team members at the Maadi parade of schools. (Back row, left to right): Tom Connelly-Whyte, Drew Gilbert, Izacc Carr, Jordy McGillen, Ashton Brook, Charlie Howden, Joel Moffett.

(Middle row, left to right): Jemma Bent, Sophie Gibson, Ruby Patterson, Honor Bradford, Ally Thomas, Penny Marriott, Isla Connelly-Whyte, Isabel Wall.

(Front row, left to right): Travis Amos, Sienna Skilling, Leah Read, Lily Davidson, Madeleine Howden, Maddie Marshall, Rosa Armstrong, Caleb Armstrong.

All competitors raced over a 2000m course.

Final results reflect the number of strong finishes by College rowers:

A Finals Placings

Gold Medal:

Sophie Gibson Under 16 Girls' Single Sculls [Heat: placed 1st (8:45.43), A Final time (8:22.62)].



(Pictured right): A triumphant Sophie Gibson with her Gold Medal, a credit to all the hard training put in.

Silver Medal

Sophie Gibson Under 17 Girls' Single Sculls, an impressive result within the next age group. [Heat: placed 1st, Quarter-final: placed 1st, Semi-final: placed 1st, A Final time 8:54.10].

4th placing Boys' Under 16 Coxed Quad Sculls - Jordy McGillen, Ashton Brook, Charlie Howden, Joel Moffett, and Madeleine Howden (Cox). [Heat: placed 4th, Repechage: placed 1st, A Final time (6:48.97)].

5th placing Girls' Under 17 Coxed Quad Sculls - Sienna Skilling, Isabel Wall, Rosa Armstrong, Jemma Bent, and Lily Davidson (Cox). [Heat: 1st, placed 2nd, Repechage: placed 2nd, A Final time (7:31.19)].

5th placing Girls' Under 17 Double Sculls - Sienna Skilling, Isabel Wall. [Heat: placed 1st, Semi-final: placed 3rd, A Final time: (7:58.80)].

7th placing Boys' Under 18 Double Sculls - Drew Gilbert and Caleb Armstrong. [Heat: placed 2nd, Repechage: placed 2nd, A Final time (7:33.91)].

7th placing Boys' Under 16 Coxed Four - Jordie McGillen, Ashton Brook, Caleb Howden, Drew Gilbert, and Madeleine Howard (Cox). [Heat: placed 2nd, Repechage: placed 2nd, A Final time (7:02.98)].

8th placing Girls' Under 18 Novice Coxed Four - Maddie Marshall, Penny Marriott, Rosa Patterson, Ally Thomas, and Lily Davidson (Cox). [Heat: placed 3rd, Repechage: placed 2nd, A Final time (9:27.34)].



(Pictured above, left to right): A Final 4th placed Boys' Under 16 Coxed Quad Sculls - Madeleine Howden (Cox), Joel Moffett, Charlie Howden, Ashton Brook, Jordy McGillen.

B Finals Placings

1st placing Boys' Under 15 Double Sculls - Joel Moffett and Caleb Armstrong. [Heat: placed 3rd, Repechage: placed 3rd, B Final time (7:21.07)].

1st placing Girls' Under 18 Novice Double Sculls - Maddie Marshall and Penny Marriott. [Heat: placed 2nd, Semi-final: placed 5th, B Final time (8:09.65)].

1st placing Girls' Under 18 Novice Coxed Quad Sculls - Maddie Marshall, Penny Marriott, Ruby Patterson, Ally Thomas, and Lily Davidson (Cox). [Heat: placed 2nd, Semi-final, placed 5th, B Final time (7:42.47)].

2nd placing Boys' Under 16 Double Sculls - Ashton Brook, Drew Gilbert. [Heat: placed 4th, Repechage: placed 2nd, Semi-final: placed 6th, B Final time (7:06.27)].

3rd placing Boys' Under 18 Single Sculls - Tim Connelly-Whyte. [Heat: placed 3rd, Quarter-final: placed 2nd, Semi-final: placed 5th, B Final time (7:30.93)].

3rd placing Boys' Under 17 Single Sculls - Izacc Carr. [Heat: placed 3rd, Quarter-final: placed 4th, Semi-final: placed 6th; B Final time (7:42.76)].

3rd placing Girls' Under 17 Double Sculls - Rosa Armstrong, Honor Bradford. [Heat: placed 2nd, Semi-final: placed 6th, B Final time (8:02.32)].

5th placing Girls' Under 17 Single Sculls - Rosa Armstrong. [Heat: placed 5th, Quarter-final: placed 4th, Semi-final: placed 8th, B Final time (9:08.39)].

5th placing Boys' Under 18 Double Sculls - Tim Connelly-Whyte, Izacc Carr. [Heat: placed 2nd, Semi-final: placed 7th, B Final time (7:03.95)].

7th placing Girls' Under 17 Coxless Pair Oars - Jemma Bent, Isla Connelly-Whyte. [Heat: placed 5th, Repechage: placed 4th, B Final time (8:18.39)].

Repechage:

7th placed Girls' Under 15 Double Sculls - Ally Thomas and Ruby Patterson. [Heat: placed 4th, Repechage time (8:26.56)].

8th placed Girls' Under 17 Coxed Four - Jemma Bent, Isla Connelly-Whyte, Leah Reid, Honor Bradford, and Lily Davidson (Cox). [Heat: placed 5th, Repechage: placed 8th].



(Pictured above, left and right): Repechage rowers Ruby Patterson and Ally Thomas in the Girls' Under 15 Double Sculls.

Heats:

6th placed Girls' Under 17 Coxed Quad Sculls - Isla Connelly-Whyte, Honor Bradford, Leah Reid, Maddie Marshall, and Madeleine Howden (Cox). [Heat: placed 6th (8:15.66)].

7th placed Boys' Under 16 Single Sculls - Jordy McGillen. [Heat: placed 7th (9:05.93)].

Appreciation

Ashburton College thanks, most sincerely, their wonderful sponsors: New World Ashburton, Carrfields Limited, Juice Signs + Design, Rotary Club of Ashburton, Jennian Homes Ashburton, Midland Seeds, Gabites Ltd, Hazlett Ltd.

A big thank you for continuing support is given to the Ashburton Rowing Club Inc, Hokonui Radio, Pearson's Coachlines and the wider community for supporting so many of the fundraisers.

Strong Results at South Island Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships

These Championships were held at the Surrey Park Athletics Track, Invercargill, from 31 March-02 April. A twelve-member team represented Ashburton College at this event, with some very good results gained.

Team members were - Curtis Bayston, Jack Bennett, Kalyem Chalmers, Kate Cochrane, Malaika Dunlea, Joshua Eketone, Ashlee Estreich, Isla Gilbert, Tony Grant, Alex Kenure-Blackler, Rishaan Kumar; with Manager Tania Estreich.

Athletes at these Championships are restricted to four individual events or three individual events plus a 4 x 100m relay. If running in the 4 x 400m relay this could be done in addition to four individual events. Age groupings were taken as at 01 January 2023.

Results Gained

College athletes achieved very strongly at these Championships.

Title Winners

Joshua Eketone	Boys' Under 16 Discus (1.25kg)	38.08m
Toby Grant	Boys' Under 15 Discus (1.25kg)	43.62m
Toby Grant	Boys' Under 15 Shot Put (5.00kg)	11.79m
Kalyem Chalmers	Boys' Under 15 1500m	4:33.42

2nd Placings

Toby Grant	Boys' Under 16 Long Jump	5.89m
Kalyem Chalmers	Boys Under 15 3000m	9:46.85
Ashburton College A	Relay Team, Under 14 Girls 4 x 100m.	
	In running order - Kate Cochrane, Isla Gilbert, Malaika Dunlea, Ashlee Estreich.	55.15

3rd Placings

Malaika Dunlea	Girls' Under 14 Discus (1.00kg)	24.13m
Alex Kenure-Blackley	Under 14 Boys' 800m	2:17.36
Ashlee Estreich	Under 14 Girls' 200m	27.28
Joshua Eketone	Boys' Under 16 Shot Put (5.00kg)	10.90m
Toby Grant	Boys' Under 15 100m	11.89

Finals Berths Were Attained By -

Rishaan Kumar, Ashlee Estreich and Kate Cochrane each placed 4th in their finals.

Rishaan Kumar	Boys' Under 15 200m	24.47
	Boys' Under 15 400m	56.75
Kate Cochrane	Girls' Under 14 Javelin (500g)	17.44m
	Girls' Under 14 Shot Put (3.00kg)	8.53m

Malaika Dunlea	Girls' Under 14 Shot Put (3.00kg)	9.29m
Curtis Bayston	Boys' Under 14 Discus (1.00kg)	30.25m
	Boys' Under 14 Shot Put (4.00kg)	8.64m

Tayla Estreich	Girls' Under 16 Long Jump	3.91m
Isla Gilbert	Girls' Under 15 High Jump	1.35m
	Girls' Under 15 Long Jump	3.77m

Ashlee Estreich	Girls' Under 14 100m	13.59
	Girls' Under 14 Long Jump	4.14m

Tania Estreich said the College must be very proud of the results the students gained, noting they were a great group to take away.



Eight of the team members, (pictured left, back row, left to right): Rishaan Kumar, Joshua Eketone, Kalyem Chalmers.

(Front row, left to right): Tayla Estreich, Malaika Dunlea, Ashlee Estreich, Kate Cochrane.

(Absent from the photo): Curtis Bayston, Jack Bennett, Isla Gilbert, Alex Kenure-Blackler.

(Pictured right): Previous College Head of Physical Education and Health Faculty, and former New Zealand Commonwealth Games athlete representative Trevor Cochrane, providing what proved to be valuable relay/baton handover training to the Girls' Relay team members.



(Pictured left, left to right): Second place-getters in the Under 14 Girls 4 x 100m relay, Kate Cochrane, Isla Gilbert, Ashlee Estreich, Malaika Dunlea.