



### Head of Junior School Message

#### Extra-Curricular Success

It has been great to see our junior students excelling outside of the classroom recently, representing our school and excelling in many areas.

A few of particular note are the Under 15 Girls' Rugby Team who came away with a Championship win, and our Pasifika and Kapa Haka Groups who both recently performed at events in the community. It's fantastic to see our Junior Students taking a lead outside of the classroom so early in their school lives.

Also, a massive congratulations and well done goes to all students who have taken part in teams, clubs, bands and groups throughout this year. College is what the students make of it, and the amount of students we have been getting involved in activities all over the school makes it an exciting place to be.

#### Subject Selection

Thank you to all students who have inputted their subjects for next year. Getting this done early allows us to plan effectively for the coming year and iron out any issues, sooner rather than later, that may arise with the timetable. Thanks to all the whānau who have spoken to their students about their subject selection and a big thank you to the College Junior Pastoral Staff Team for their work in this space.

#### Ako Interviews

It was great to see so many students and caregivers in school on 24 August for our second Ako interviews of the year. These provide a fantastic opportunity to strengthen the relationship between school and home, which is crucial for the ongoing success of the students in the Junior School.

#### Transition

As we look ahead to next year, our transition process is now well and truly underway. We have had over 250 enrolment interviews with next year's Year 9 students, which has been awesome.

The process will continue from here, with staff meetings at all of our contributing schools as well as visits from College staff and students to the contributing schools, with the goal of us forming the bonds and relationships that will help new students feel comfortable when they get to College next year.

If you or your family have any questions around transition, or want some information about the process, feel free to email me – [coj@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:coj@ashcoll.school.nz)

More information about an orientation day, which will be during the school day in November, will be coming out in due course.

**John Cook**  
Head of Junior School



### 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.](https://tinyurl.com/59uyvdp)

**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/59uyvdp>

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
TE TAHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

**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.

#### Senior Students Donate Blood

Head of the student Community Services Committee Angela Ciora said that, on 23 August, fifteen senior students from Ashburton College travelled to the Sinclair Centre to participate in a community blood drive.

Angela noted that, for most of the students this was the first time they had donated blood and, for some, it was a very nerve-wracking experience. However, they still fought through and made the contribution.



(Pictured left): Gianna Butler, Leader of the student AshColl Way Committee, underway with her donation.

(Pictured below right, left and right): Leader of the student Sports and Recreation Committee Isabel Wall, and Student Welfare Committee member Henry Goodes.



(Pictured above): Isabel Wall triumphantly holding up her donated blood bags.

The New Zealand Blood Service offers this opportunity to the senior students, to not only help them contribute to their community but to also build a long-lasting habit of donating blood. Through this experience the students saw not only what the process was like but the effect it can have.

There is no substitute for human blood, and healthy donors are the only way the blood bank is able to maintain its blood supply and continue to help ill people requiring blood.

One small donation is able to save up to three lives. Thank you to all those involved in organising and contributing to this amazing cause!



Photos supplied by Year 13 student Joelle Watson

(Pictured left, left to right): By the Blood Service mini-van are Mia Chambers, Isabel Wall, Leader of the Environment/Canteen Committee Laura Cameron, Head Student Henry Thomas and Gianna Butler.

### Events

#### Caitlin McSorley's Pasch Youth Course Scholarship Experience

Year 11 student Caitlin McSorley said that her experience in the PASCH Youth Course in Bremen, Germany, was 'one of a kind'.

Caitlin was one of seven students who travelled from New Zealand, to Bremen, where up to 100 students gathered for the three-week course, from 24 June-17 July.

Caitlin said it was incredible being able to improve her language skills, whilst also experiencing the country's culture. The daily lessons consisted of learning new vocabulary and focusing on sentence structure, whilst also boosting confidence in speaking German.

The city of Bremen is filled with old, historic buildings with incredible architecture, and Caitlin noted there were so many places to go into and learn about why they are so significant.

(Pictured right): Schnoor, a neighbourhood in the medieval centre of Bremen.

The Youth Course also provided two trips to nearby towns, Bremerhaven, which is a port city and Cuxhaven, a coastal town.



(Pictured left): At the port city of Bremerhaven.

(Pictured below right): The coastal town of Cuxhaven.



(Pictured above): The PASCH Youth Course Participants 2023.

In summary, Caitlin said that 'overall, this trip was such an incredible experience, and it is one I would recommend to all students of German'.

### Congratulations

#### Students of the Week Award, Week 6

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 Putting Effort In and Doing The Best They Can'.

The recipients this week are:



**Holly Davis** Year 9  
**Jayden Hattrill** Year 10  
**Charlotte Peck** Year 11  
**Leah Doig** Year 12  
**Henry Goodes** Year 13



### Congratulations

#### Ski and Snowboard News

##### Tucker Trophy Inter-House Skiing and Snowboarding

A bluebird day at Mt Hutt on Thursday 03 August greeted the twenty nine College skiers competing in the annual Inter-house Ski and Snowboard Competition.

Teacher-in-Charge Michael Clark said that racing takes place on the J-Doles run at Mt Hutt and sees skiers go around gates with their times calculated over two runs.

#### 2023 Honours

##### Girls' Racing

This year honours went to Year 13 student **Alia Forrester** in the Girls' Ski Competition, with Year 12 student **Honor Bradford** and Year 11 student **Harriet Hill** placing second and third respectively.

##### Boys' Racing

In the Boys' racing, first place went to Year 10 student **Joel Moffett**, while **Hamish Ramsay** (also Year 10) placed second, with Year 13 student **Lachie Jemmett** earning third place.

##### House Trophy Winners

The trophy is awarded to the House with top times for the fastest skiers averaged out.

This year the winning house was **Orange House**.



(Pictured left): Harriett Hill on her downhill run.



(Pictured right): Mitchell Lye competing in the Boys' event.

#### Canterbury Ski and Snowboard Championships

A large number of skiers and snowboarders throughout the Canterbury Region descended on Mt Hutt on Thursday 10 August for the Canterbury Secondary Schools' Ski and Snowboard Championships.

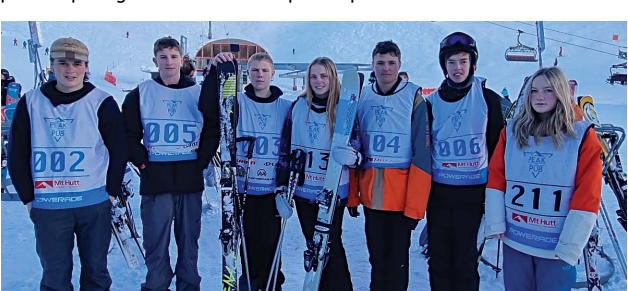
The event brings the elite skiers from the region to a dual slalom course and 2023 was no exception with nearly 170 skiers and snowboarders participating.

Ashburton College had eight skiers entered.

#### Fastest Combined Times

**Thomas Easton**, **Alia Forrester** and **Taylor Wilson** recorded the fastest three combined times for College.

Michael said that, though the times for our whole team were comparable to times registered at Tucker Trophy, they were still some seconds down on the podium placegetters for the Championships.



(Pictured above, left to right): The AshColl team of Thomas Easton, Tom Harrison, Taylor Wilson, Harriett Hill, Mitchell Lye, Ron Walther and Alia Forrester.

(Absent from the photo): Hamish Ramsay.

#### Aoraki Snow Championships

These were scheduled for Monday 14 August but, due to weather conditions, were cancelled on the day.

#### Aoraki Table Tennis Championships

Held at the Barry Butler Stadium in Timaru on Friday 18 August, Ashburton College fielded five of the eight teams in the competition.

#### AshColl Teams' members were:

**AshColl 1:** Ashton Cromie, Jacob Robinson

**AshColl 2:** Shawn Tayaban, Ben Ciron

**AshColl 3:** Sunny Rana, Luis Varias

**AshColl 4:** Raven Tayaban, John Paul Requijo

**AshColl 5:** Miel Sacendoncillo, Sir Aron Da-al

#### Results – Runners-up and a 3rd Placing

College Kairuruku Hākinakina | Sports Co-ordinator Darion Gray said that the highlight of the day was College's **Year 10 team of Jacob Robinson and Ashton Cromie** making it through to the final.

Darion said that the boys gave the reigning Year 13 champions from Mountainview High School a scare, and a good run for their money, which augers well for future successes.

(Pictured below, left): Jacob Robinson in action against his Mountainview High School opponent.



(Pictured below): Ashton Cromie in his final against Mountainview High School's player.



The AshColl 4 team of Raven Tayaban and John Paul Requijo gained a 3rd podium placement.



(Pictured above, left to right): The AshColl teams' members: Jacob Robinson, Raven Tayaban, Ashton Cromie, Sunny Rana, Sir Aron Da-al, Ben Ciron, John Paul Requijo, Miel Sacendoncillo, Shawn Tayaban. (Front): Luis Varias.

#### Excellent Results at the Road Cycling Skoda Southern Tour

College students **Eliza McKenzie (Under 15)** and **Casey Brake (Under 14)**, alongside Ashburton Intermediate student **Charlotte Neal (Under 13)**, competed very successfully in this event held in Blenheim over the weekend of 26 and 27 August.

#### The Skoda Southern Tour combines four separate stages:

The Time Trial is over the 3.4km distance, while the Criterium has different distances for the age groups. For the College team these were 7.2km for Casey's and Charlotte's age group, and 8.4km for the age group Eliza was racing in.

The Hill Climb is 1.8km for all competitors and the Road Race 16km for the Under 14 and Under 13 competitors, being Casey and Charlotte; and 20km for Eliza's Under 15 age group.

All in all, a solid weekend of events.

Each stage has points allocated to decide the overall South Island winners; and both the Time Trial and Criterium were national events, with competitors racing for national titles.

Further to this, as with all tours, there were jerseys awarded and worn (yellow for the overall leader; green for the Sprint Ace, and the Red Dot for Queen of the Mountain [hill climb]).

Competitors were from across the South Island, plus quite a number from the North Island.

#### Saturday's Events

**Saturday saw the Time Trial** first up, on a beautiful clear morning, and a good fast track.

**Casey** completed her first national event, with a very tidy time, and finished fourth.

**Charlotte** rode well and narrowly claimed the **Silver Medal**.

**Eliza** opened her campaign with a strong finish for the **Bronze Medal**, which was a great start for all the girls, and super to see them on the national podium.

(Pictured right, far right): Eliza McKenzie on the podium having gained the Time Trial Bronze Medal.

**Criterium**  
In the afternoon, the Criterium was completed around an urban block. This made for very exciting racing and viewing and produced excellent up-close sprinting; and with sprint laps added to determine the Sprint Ace, spectators were kept well entertained.

**Casey** rode well for a tidy fourth place finish and used features of the course well to her advantage.

**Charlotte** showed her training and speed on the flat for a tightly contested race and claimed the **Gold Medal** on the finish line, and her first national title.

(Pictured right): Charlotte Neal on her way to a Gold Medal and National Title in the Criterium.

**Eliza** worked hard to claim sprint points throughout, including winning the second sprint, and was granted the **Green Sprint Ace Shirt** at the completion.

(Pictured right): Eliza McKenzie leading the Criterium into the second sprint.

**Sunday's Events**  
Sunday dawned clear and very cold.

**Hill Climb**  
The girls had to tackle the Hill Climb in the early hours (between 8:00 and 9:00am). The hill climbed was on a winding road, up the side of the Awatere Valley.

All three girls showed great determination and gathered some more valuable stage points for their totals (and enjoyed the free-wheeling downhill after the race!).

(Pictured left): Casey Brake on the Hill Climb.

**Road Race**  
The last race of the tour was the Road Race.

This encompassed much of the Yealands Vineyards from Seddon to the sea and back again, with a challenging long grinding climb to the finish.

A reconnaissance ride on Friday afternoon gave the girls a feel for the climbs - and great views across Cook Strait to the north!

With strong, blustery southerly winds on Sunday, much of the course was very exposed and made for very challenging riding.

**Casey** led the team out and rode a strong and determined race to finish her first Tour in fine style, and can be very proud of her efforts, finishing fourth.

**Charlotte** worked hard to keep in touch with the eventual overall winner and took **second place honours on the line, wearing the green jersey**.

The Under 15 girls went last in the gathering wind, with their ride also including a further 4km, of the morning's hill descent and climb. **In the Green Jersey, Eliza** fought hard to gather ground across the course and finished fourth on the line.

Described as a great event, well run by all the volunteers and local sponsors, the girls are all looking forward to the 2024 edition, and with greater knowledge of the various courses and events, they will hit the ground running.

They were also fortunate to have the weekend on the ground of local champion, Monique Brake, for the weekend. The girls represented the school superbly and showed lots of grit in very trying conditions on Sunday.

**Overall summary of these very fine results**  
**Casey Brake** 4th in all four events.  
**Eliza McKenzie** **Time Trial:** National Bronze Medal  
**Criterium:** 1 sprint win and 1 third placing, earning the Sprint Ace jersey for the final stage. 4th overall.  
**Charlotte Neal:** **Time Trial:** National Silver Medal.  
**Criterium:** Gold Medal and National title.  
2nd overall, and the Sprint Ace jersey for the final stage.

### Coming Events

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

<b>September</b>	
<b>08-18</b>	College Derived Grades Exam Week
<b>10</b>	* Target Shooting New Zealand Inter-schools' Shoot, Rangiora
<b>11-18</b>	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori/Māori Language week
<b>16</b>	* Aoraki Mountain biking, Herbert Forest
<b>17</b>	* South Island Secondary Schools' Ski and Snowboard Championships, Queenstown

<b>19</b>	Year 13 Biology Zoo trip, Orana Wildlife Park
	StudyLink Tertiary evening, AshColl staffroom
<b>23-25</b>	* Skoda National School Road Cycling Championships, Manawatu
<b>25-30</b>	* NZSS Basketball National Champs, Central Energy Trust Arena, Palmerston North - (if qualify through Winter Tournament Week).
<b>25-06 Oct</b>	<b>Student Holiday Term Break</b>
<b>October</b>	
<b>01-07</b>	Tuvalu Language Week
<b>03-04</b>	South Island and National Cycling Track Champs, Invercargill
<b>03-07</b>	Mountain Bike National Schools Championships, Blenheim
<b>08-14</b>	Fijian Language Week