



### Deputy Principal Message

#### College's New Build

It is exciting to see the progress the builders, Hawkins, are making with timber framing now progressing along the building. Soon we will be able to take staff on a tour of the Rangitata Block so they can visually see how big their rooms and spaces are. This block will be home to Science, Maths, Drama, Arts and Te Whare Manaaki.

#### Historic Building - Menorlue

Menorlue is also having a make-over and in doing this it has been stripped back to the internal framing. It is amazing to see the history of the building and, where a new door is to be put, it appears there has previously been one in that space! Menorlue will have its 'bones' made good again, with sound-proofing in the walls and the reinstating of original features being undertaken before it gets a paint inside and out. This will be sympathetic to the age of the building and blend in with the new build. It is pleasing to see a piece of history retained on-site for the Music Department to use.

#### Future Building Activity

The contractors have had little impact on the running of the school to date but, in the next couple of months, the pipework is to be laid from the new build area to the heating and cooling unit. This means a 5-metre trench is being dug alongside S Block and around the Chessboard to the new heating and cooling hub by the Library. This hub is currently under construction. There will be some redirection of paths for students to walk on, for a short time.

In the Phys Ed/Gymnasium area space, one of the old Phys Ed changing sheds has been demolished and the ground-work is in place for the one new changing shed. Portable changing sheds have been put in to cater for the needs, in the interim. There are no plans to change or build new gymnasiums at this stage and, once the work is completed, there will be just the one changing shed.

#### Moving from S Block to the Rangitata Block

The process of decanting from S Block to the Rangitata Block has started. With a finish date at this stage for the Rangitata Block of 16 November 2023, there will be a flurry of activity to move furniture, equipment and resources into the new block when the senior students leave at year end. Commercial movers will be employed to do most of this.

Along with this, there will be a repurposing of some rooms, with the old Art rooms becoming Digital Technology rooms, and the Canteen being rehoused to R10, until Block 2 is built. There is certainly a domino effect as one decision and action has consequences further on.

#### Traffic Safety and Access: Please Drop-off on Walnut Avenue

The front of the school is still busy with diggers and trucks making the new drop-off area. The fencing around this has encroached onto the main drive into school, making it one-way for traffic.

**Can parents/caregivers who are dropping their children off, please do this on Walnut Avenue as the drive is becoming congested, especially before and after school.**

#### View Drawings and Photos

We have architectural drawings and photos in the main entrance foyer, if you are interested in what the school will look like when finished.

Please feel free to pop in and look at these or email me (sh@ashcoll.school.nz) if you wish to know anything else.

*Challenges, failures, defeats and ultimately, progress, are what make your life worthwhile.*

Maxime Lagacé

(Canadian Professional Ice-Hockey Goal Tender).

Helen Shore-Taylor

Deputy Principal • Tumuaki Tuarua



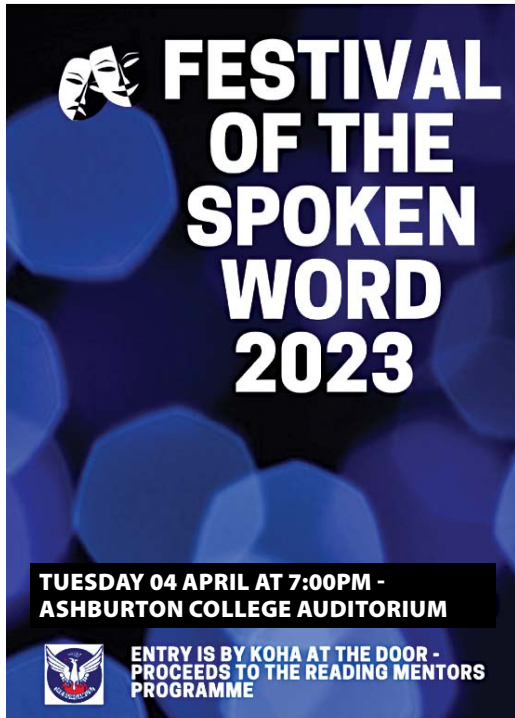
### Information

#### Festival of the Spoken Word

**This is a celebration of 'things spoken' and, again, it is a real pleasure to be presenting such College performances once again.**

Categories include Serious Group pieces and Serious Monologues (Junior and Senior), Humorous Group pieces and Humorous Monologues (Junior and Senior).

**Join us for this annual Festival and enjoy the talents of our students.**



### Congratulations

#### Presentation Assembly and Head Students' Inaugural Speeches

**After weather postponement this year and two years of a recipients-only assembly, it was a real pleasure to have the full school assembled on the Chessboard, for this first 2023 full-school assembly.**

#### The Assembly

This occasion is a celebration and acknowledgement of student leadership, involvement and foci for 2023.

#### First Head Student Speeches and Badge Presentations

Leadership Badges were presented to our two Head and two Deputy Head Students who also delivered their first speeches to the school. Leadership badges were then presented to the Student and House Executive leaders, and to Student Executive and House Committee members. Student leaders are recognisable by braids on their blazers – red for Head Students; red and blue sleeve strip for Student Executive members; while House Captains have a one sleeve braid, in their House colour.

#### Opening Welcome

Principal Ross Preece welcomed all to the Assembly, opening by acknowledging students who have put themselves forward for a leadership position. He spoke to the skills of leadership and encouraged Year 9 and 10 students to aspire to leadership roles as senior students and to 'put their hands up' for these opportunities in the future.

He also spoke of secondary school years being more enjoyable by getting involved, saying that the forthcoming Orientation Morning provided the perfect opportunity to sign up for activities and to try something new.

#### Head Students' Inaugural Speeches

**The Head Students for 2023 then gave their inaugural speeches, with all noting the privilege they felt at being in their roles, and saying how much they were looking forward to working with students and staff.**

#### Head Students 2023:

##### Sarah Wilson, Head Student

Sarah used the Prelims Day 400m race as her analogy, saying there's the start, the distance, then the finish line; which she saw as being just like school.

**At the start**, students are all in the same boat, lined up on the starting line, coming in through the gates.

**The distance:** Sarah said 'Then you're off. The race has begun', adding that what she knows is that students have to pace themselves.

Her advice was: 'If you're doing NCEA this year, pace yourself. Stay on top of your school-work and keep a balance in life'.

**Race tactics:** To the Year 9 and 10 students she noted them as being in pre-season, advising the next one or two years as the time to develop their race tactics.

**Challenge:** One thing that can be assured is that 2023 will challenge everyone, so she said 'set goals and take things one step at a time'.

**Finish line:** This is what all students are heading towards, with each having different finish lines throughout their time at AshColl. These may include



### Information

#### Ashburton College – Pasifika Whānau/Family Fono

All interested people are warmly invited to –

#### Pasifika Whānau/Family Fono

Thursday 23 March

5:00pm – 6:30pm

Ashburton College Staffroom

The purpose of the fono is for us at College to have an opportunity to engage with our Pasifika School Community.

We look forward to acknowledging the achievements of our students, as well as working beside our Pasifika families to strengthen the learning experiences of their children.

**We are keen to share information and ideas with you all.**

Light refreshments will be provided.

The  
AshColl  
Way



### Congratulations

#### Target Shooting Outdoor Nationals Successes and New Zealand Selections for Charlotte and Phoebe McKenzie

During the week of 20-25 February the Target Shooting New Zealand (TSNZ) Outdoor Nationals were held at the Burnett Range, McLean's Island, Christchurch; and were hosted by the local club Canterbury Outdoor Target Shooting. Incidentally, this was the 1974 Commonwealth Games Shooting Range.

**Charlotte** and **Phoebe McKenzie** were the only Mid Canterbury-based competitors, supported by local and Ashburton College Coach, Bryan Hunter. For Phoebe it was her first Outdoor Nationals while Charlotte was a returning competitor.

#### The Competition

Outdoor Shooting is the international discipline of the Target Shooting sport and has a 50 metre range. Competitors shoot 60 shot matches, over 75 minutes, which includes 15 minutes of sighting and preparation time and then 60 minutes for the match.

The duration of the match, and the introduction of weather conditions, make this very demanding for competitors, both physically and mentally. These matches then aggregate each day across the week and from them prizes and national teams are selected.

The week started at 30 degrees of heat with a heavy mirage, and then the southerly arrived and produced matches with strong rain and blustery 40-50kph winds. Suffice to say this was challenging and had even the most seasoned campaigners below their usual score range after the Wednesday matches.

**Charlotte** had a steady match to open on Tuesday and a good match on Thursday but was somewhat unlucky to strike the worst of the southerly on Wednesday, which impacted her overall aggregate. Her shot selection across the matches was described as excellent, showing both patience and skill.



(Pictured above): Charlotte studying the very difficult wind conditions.

**Phoebe** had a sound opening on Tuesday, and a steady match on Thursday. On Wednesday, she beat the worst of the southerly and also shot superbly, in very fickle and building conditions, for a really great score. Her final aggregate was really pleasing, especially for someone relatively new to the discipline. Like Charlotte, she was patient and measured across the matches and she was well-rewarded for this.



(Pictured above): Phoebe underway in the southerly.

#### New Zealand Women's Randle International Selection

Both Charlotte and Phoebe were subsequently selected for the New Zealand Women's Randle International, which is a long-standing American match shot between the United States, United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand.

The match is women only, including Coaches, and Range Officers, and is shot on official American targets at 50 and 100 yards.

**This competition was completed** on the local Deer Stalkers' Range nearby and the results are sealed for now, awaiting other nations to submit theirs.

It was very exciting for the girls to be selected and shoot this match, and a great experience.

(Pictured right): Charlotte receiving her Randle International Selection honours from the TSNZ President.



#### New Zealand Junior (Under 21) Team and South Island Open Team Selection

Further to the above, **the girls were both selected** to the New Zealand Junior Under 21 team against Great Britain for International Match Day on Saturday.

**Phoebe further shot for the South Island Open Team** (in an historic win against the North Island). We are reliably advised that the last time that happened Phoebe wasn't even alive!

Additionally, **Phoebe also shot for the New Zealand Slazenger Open Team** against Australia.

Her successes over the week were certainly a super effort.

**Charlotte** also provided a reliable score in her official Designated match, where she is chasing further international selection, which will be announced after additional selection matches in a couple of months.

#### Individual Graded Matches

Amongst the competition were individual graded matches in which **Phoebe** took out the D Grade aggregate and Charlotte finished well in C Grade.

#### Best Graded Association Team 1st Prize Winners

Both Charlotte and Phoebe also combined with fellow Canterbury Outdoor Target Shooting member Sean Moriarty for the Association Teams match, taking out first prize for the best Graded Association team.

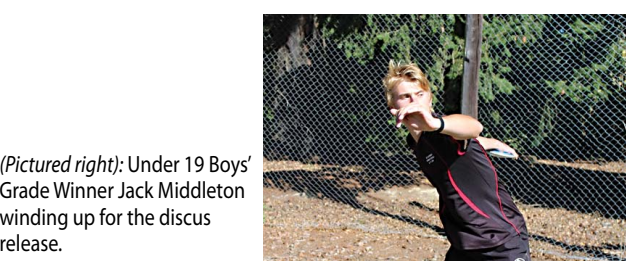
(Pictured right): Phoebe with her newly earned New Zealand Honours and the D Grade Aggregate Championship Trophy.

After a long and demanding week, Coach Bryan Hunter was very proud to see both girls shooting in New Zealand teams and Phoebe receiving her first (of two) New Zealand Blazer patch at the Saturday night formal dinner, team photos and presentation evening.



#### College Athletics Finals

**As advised in last week's newsletter we are pleased to highlight a sample of competitor photos from the Finals Day.**



(Pictured right): Under 19 Boys' Grade Winner Jack Middleton winding up for the discus release.



(Pictured left): Eventual winner and recipient of the Cliff Bradley Trophy, Tim Connelly-Whyte, leading the charge in the 1500m.



(Pictured right): Under 19 Girls' Grade Winner, Rose Vannini at full stretch in a long-distance event.

### Congratulations

apprenticeships, tertiary education, or full-time employment. Sarah's advice was, whatever a student's finish line, to know they have the resources and staff to help them get across the line.

The analogy continued, with Sarah emphasising there are many different events at Prelims, just as there are so many different subjects and opportunities at school.

**In closing, Sarah challenged students:** to find their passion and purpose, find that subject they enjoy and work hard at it, and take on any opportunities.

She acknowledged this may involve some trial and error but assured students the year will be a 'whole lot more enjoyable and worthwhile' for waking up every day with purpose.

**In conclusion her words were to –**

'Enjoy 2023,'

saying the Head Students look forward to accomplishing their goals and celebrating students' successes together. Students were to know, if they needed any help they should feel free to sing out.

#### Henry Thomas, Head Student

Henry came from the point of view of having an adventure – an unusual and exciting experience which can sometimes be risky.

He noted that, for him, his adventure at Ashburton College is getting closer to its end, but for some it is just the beginning.

Henry's advice to students was to make their adventure special, because the biggest adventure one can take is to live the life that you want.

Henry welcomed all new staff and students, and a welcome back to those returning. A big congratulations was extended to all students stepping into leadership roles for 2023, saying there was a big year ahead with lots of challenges but that he is excited to work with everyone on their new adventures.

Recognised were the Covid-interruptions to the last three years, which meant adapting to a new way of learning. Returning to 'normal' was the hope for this year, and the chance to have the best year yet.

**This meant, Henry said:**

- Our year to strive for success.
- Our year to take risks that may pay off.
- Our year to try new things.
- And lastly our year to have fun.

#### Taking Out-of-Comfort Zone Opportunities

All students at Ashburton College were challenged to take every opportunity, and not to be afraid to be involved as much as they possibly can. This was recommended in order to have a year that will be more enjoyable and entertaining, by moving out of the comfort zone and participating in new activities.

#### 2023

To his fellow Head Students – Sarah, Olivia and Seb – he said he was 'looking forward to what 2023 brings for us and to working together as a team on any challenges we face ahead'.

#### Concluding Quote –

If you get a chance, take it.  
If it changes your life, let it.  
Nobody said it would be easy.  
They just promised it would be worth it.

**In next week's newsletter we will highlight the speeches of Deputy Head Students Olivia Pearce and Seb McMillan.**

#### College Student Committees

**Following the speeches, Head of Senior School Abbey Bruce introduced the Student Executive members, who received their badges and then read out the names of members in their Committees, to come forward and receive their badges.**

**This was repeated by the Staff House Leaders – Stacey Monk (Blue House), Courtenay Soper (Green House), Pete Lee (Orange House) and Georgia Hurley (Red House) introducing the House Leaders, who were presented with their badges, before each introduced and called to the stage their committee members.**

**In next week's newsletter we look forward to beginning to introduce the respective Student Executive and House Committees.**

**However, in this newsletter we introduce this year's Ashburton College Student Executive**



(Back row, left to right): Isabel Wall, Edelma Kelsall, Alexia Wilson, Amy Waldron, Alyssa Gilbert, Gianna Butler.

(Middle row, left to right): Maria Lawn, Laura Cameron, Amelia Harris, Angela Ciora, McLeod Sherratt, Sifala Sagaga.

(Front row, left to right): Deputy Head Student Seb McMillan, Head Student Henry Thomas, Head Student Sarah Wilson, Deputy Head Student Olivia Pearce.

### Congratulations

#### Coming Events

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

#### March

**16 or 17** \* Postponement days: Aoraki Athletics

**16-17** Year 12 Geography trip, Mt Cook

**18** Polyfest, North Hagley Park, Christchurch

**20** Year 9 Attitude presentation, Period 3, at College  
Year 10 Attitude presentation, Period 1, at College  
Year 11 Attitude presentation, Period 4, at College  
Year 12 Attitude presentation, Period 5, at College  
Year 13 Attitude presentation, Period 2, at College

**21** \* Aoraki Secondary Schools' Girls' Volleyball, Timaru

**21-22** Goethe Institute German guest, German classes

**22** Singletracks MTB Round 4 (Canterbury SS XC MTB Championship), Halswell Quarry Park

Year 12 Outdoor Education Kayaking, Lake Hood  
Year 12 and Year 13 Tertiary Day, Hotel Ashburton

**23** \* Aoraki Secondary Schools' Boys' Volleyball, Timaru  
Pasifika Fono Evening, Staffroom, 5:30pm-7:30pm  
Year 13AGH Water Sampling field, various venues

**24** Year 13 AGH Results Analysis

**27** Year 13 Chemistry trip to Ravensdown and Lincoln University

**27-30** Poipoi to Pitomata Health and Safety, Hakatere Marae

#### 25-02 April Summer Sports Tournament Week

**25-26** South Island Secondary Schools' Touch Championships, Christchurch

**25-02** NZ Secondary Schools' Rowing AON Maadi Cup, Lake Karapiro

**27** Canterbury Secondary Schools' Golf, Templeton Golf Course

**27-29** NZ Secondary Schools' Futsal, Selwyn

**27-31** Aoraki Schools' Sports Week, Various Venues

**27-31** NZ Secondary School Tennis, Christchurch

**28-30** \* SISS Volleyball Satellite, Christchurch

**28-31** South Island Secondary Schools' Softball Division 2, Christchurch

**29-01 April** NZ Secondary Schools' 3x3 Basketball, Takanini

**30-01 April** South Island Secondary Schools' Mountainbike Championships, Queenstown

**31-02** April South Island Secondary Schools' Athletic Championships, Invercargill

South Island Secondary Schools' Motocross, venue to be confirmed