



### Message From The Principal

#### King's Birthday Weekend

Somehow it felt unusual not to be celebrating Queen's Birthday last weekend. For the vast majority of us, 'King's Birthday Weekend' seems a slightly unusual verbal arrangement. However, this is the only scheduled break in a full term, so it was welcomed.

#### Secondary Principals' Conference

During last week I was at the Secondary Principals' Conference.

The vast majority of secondary principals belong to this organisation, and it is clear that all of us are dealing with similar challenges, no matter where our school might be located in the motu. These challenges include:

- The shortage of secondary teachers generally, and especially in several hard-to-staff areas.
- If employing from overseas then immigration moves at glacial speed.
- Uncertainty over NCEA implementation and shifting goal posts.
- Concern about the proportion of staff who aspire to be Principals.

It was certainly a worthwhile three days, and the SPANZ organisation moves their conference venue location about, with this year being in New Plymouth.

#### Rangitā Block

The build of our Rangitā Block is proceeding, with the block now being wrapped up, then all manner of subbies will be in place over the coming months.

A large school build like this has many different specialist tasks and it has been suggested that we could have close to 100 tradies on site. The local bakery has been warned!

#### Open Night/Year 8 Subject Information – Next Term, Thursday 27 July, 5:30pm-7:30pm

In terms of our Open Night there are, naturally, some challenges to staging this. This is because our normal access points are cut off by deep trenches and safety fencing, and this would make our normal routes unworkable and/or dangerous from a Health and Safety point of view.

Therefore, we are going to adapt our normal programme to a couple of blocks where subjects will be on display. Four groups will be welcomed in the Auditorium and will then get a tour of two main blocks including the Technology Block.

We look forward to greeting you at this time.

#### Winter Challenges

As winter starts to impose itself on our community there is the usual increase in winter coughs and colds.

Please, if your child is obviously unwell then try to resist the urge to send them to school.

#### Outdoor Education

The recent tragedy involving Whangārei Boys' High School has put a major focus on Outdoor Education for all schools.

As a school we wish to continue offering this popular subject and to reassure our community that we have always taken any Health and Safety risks into consideration.

My thanks for taking the time to update yourselves with our news.

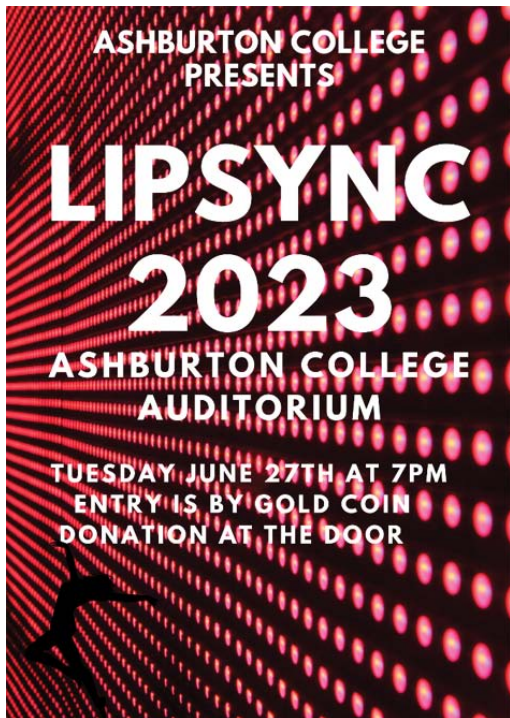


Ross Preece  
Principal • Tumuaiki

### Information

#### Ashburton College – Annual Lip Sync

Put this date in your calendar, if you can join us in the audience to enjoy the talents of College students.



### Acknowledgement

#### Acknowledgement with Appreciation – Former Staff Member Don Wilson

We acknowledge with appreciation former staff member Don Wilson, who died on 24 March.

Don was an early starter into the world of supporting schools as a Computer Technician, at a time when 'networks' were in their infancy.

The pathway to Computer Technician started when Don joined the staff of Ashburton College in 1986, firstly as a Science Technician. In addition to electronic repairs for the Science Faculty, and other departments, his role included Audio Visual support to Library staff and relevant departments.

Both of these positions assumed a lesser role as the computer network trajectory increased. Due to Don's skills and electronics knowledge, his position quickly evolved into that of Computer Technician and, by 1999, most of his work centred on the maintenance, development and training associated with College's Computer Network. This position he held until his retirement at the end of 2003.

Inherent in the Computer Technician position was also being a member of the College RISC (Resources) Committee while, up until mid-1999 he also held the position of Health and Safety Officer.

Given today's dependency on computer networks and IT (Information Technology) some of the earlier role divisions and decisions remind us just how much has changed. As Administrator of the network, one of the role divisions meant Don was allocated to 'looking after email'.

By 1999 he had already foreseen the need to address issues of network security and protocols within the College, and had signalled this to management.

Also, around this time, he worked with former Head of Technology Steve Wood, regarding the use of Macintosh computers in the Technology area; setting up network installations extensions in that area, and within R and T Blocks.

Questioned amidst this work was whether 'connecting rooms to internet was really required?' Again, not a factor one would question nowadays.

Alongside Executive Officer of the time, Bryan Hunter, they set up the fibre cables through the overhead service ducts, in order to facilitate these changes. Bryan reliably advises that, with Don being tall, and he not being, he (Bryan) got the job of crawling through the ducts!

During this time of transition into the world of IT, Don availed himself of every useful opportunity for training.

Don's wide-ranging skills came into play in helping with a number of projects around the College, being described, at times, as a 'right-hand man' to Bryan Hunter. That duo, with former staff member 'Doc' Derek Syme, organised themselves also into many motorcycle tours, with Don's later bike, for the enthusiasts amongst you, being a BMW R1100RT flat twin 1085cc tourer.

Don was involved in many aspects of the College's life and, being a former farmer, was a keen supporter of the College's Agriculture programme and plot.

On the sporting front, Don, with Bryan, was instrumental, through the Coronation Target Shooting Club, in setting up an inter-House Shooting competition. This was described as a 'big thing, back in its day'. It ran for four weeks, at lunchtimes, allowing for 100 students per House to participate at the Coronation Range on West Street.

Don's nineteen years of contributions to Ashburton College helped build the foundations of where we are now, and his work was valued by staff, students, and the Board alike. His very down-to-earth and realistic views of the needs of the College in the computer space were more than valuable, as was his research regarding pricing options. His ability to present cost-effective alternatives often allowed dollars spent to go a little further than initially budgeted for.

Don was always keen to gain more information, especially in his areas of interest, and he approached life in an understated manner which belied his acute intelligence, talents and capabilities, alongside a positive outlook and dry sense of entertaining humour.

When Don died, a genuinely very fine person was lost to all who knew him, worked with him, and who were fortunate enough to enjoy his personality, and share in his interests and skills through his many involvements in the wider community.

Most significantly, we extend our sincere sympathy to his immediate family Lynere and Nick, Helene and Kerry, Moray and Julia and grandchildren Caitlin, Andrew, Maddie, Hannah and Kezia.

At College we acknowledge, with appreciation, all that Don contributed as the quality person he was, and for the skills he offered. It was a privilege to have known him.

The  
AshColl  
Way



### Events

#### Year 13 Student Gianna Butler Participant at Aotearoa Youth Declaration (YTD) Conference

Annually, 150-350 Year 9-13 rangatahi with different backgrounds, interests and aspirations come together for four days in Tāmaki Makaurau at UN Youth's flagship civics conference, Aotearoa Youth Declaration.

At this conference they research, debate, and look to solve the issues facing Aotearoa New Zealand, sharing perspectives across a range of topics and social issues. Importantly, they share some glimpses into their lived experiences, motivations and aspirations in these discussions.

Gianna said that this was a four-day conference, held from 13-16 April where students discussed different topics and issues and wrote new policies which all went together as the Youth Declaration. Gianna was also fortunate in gaining a scholarship through the organisation, which covered Conference attendance costs, separate from flights.

This is Gianna's second involvement at YTD, having attended 'virtually' online (due to Covid restrictions) in 2020, when she was a Year 10 student at the Ashburton Christian School. She noted that, this time, it was 'cool' to attend in person and see the event overall.

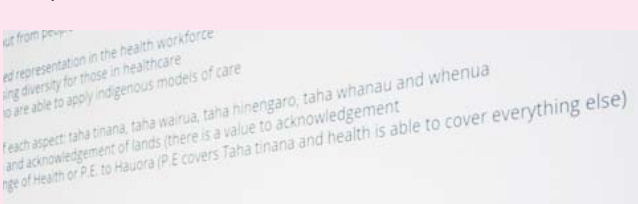
Since that time Gianna said that she had more skills this time, knew a bit more and had improved her speaking skills; and doubtless this led to her being nominated as her group's leader.

At the Conference, Gianna was in the Hauora group and, as for all groups, they prepared policies; with theirs related to Hauora (Māori philosophy of health, unique to Aotearoa). Each group had group times, speaker panels, competitions and ceremonies; with twelve groups operating in total, with each to prepare three policies.

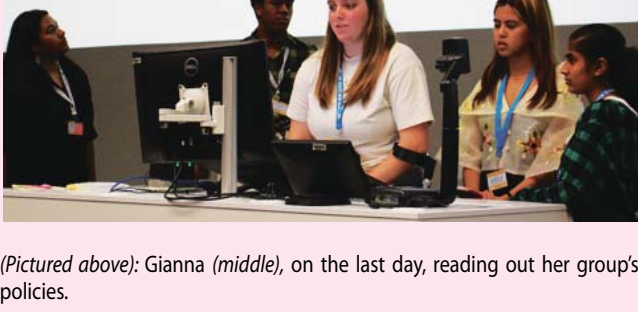
Each group's workshops, two per day, were facilitated by two external personnel, with topics including learning about Policy writing, how to be on a Speaker Panel, public speaking, and working on their individual topics.

Gianna's group wrote policies about Hauora, in Schools - Te Whare Tapa Whā and the implementation of Hauora. Te Whare Tapa Whā is described as a model of health that represents health and well-being as a wharenui (meeting house) with four walls.

On the fourth day of the Conference the groups presented their policies at the Closing Ceremony, which was attended also by Members of Parliament. All policies are compiled and forwarded to relevant members of Parliament for discussion, with some able to be implemented, after review, consideration and analysis of 'how' they can be promoted. The role of the groups was to prepare the policies, rather than focus on how they would be implemented.



(Pictured above): Gianna (middle), on the last day, reading out her group's policies.



In conclusion, Gianna said that it was a really amazing time and experience, from which she learnt a lot. Benefits were coming together with other young people; being able to think over and have an input into how life in New Zealand is or could be; working on personal skills; gaining increased respect for other viewpoints and beliefs; raising awareness and knowledge of issues not previously considered; and learning more about Hauora, Māori Values.



(Pictured above, on the right): Gianna with a fellow group member advertising their topic.

Gianna said she would definitely recommend students applying to take part in the future.



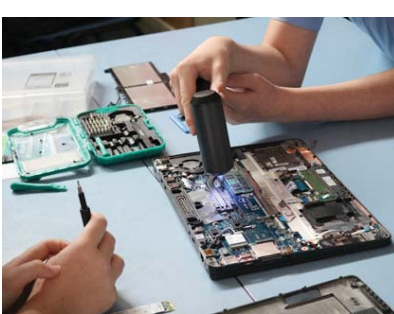
### Events

#### Students Underway with RAD (Recycle a Device) Laptop Scheme

Ashburton College, the Ashburton Public Library and Recycle a Device have joined forces to establish a RAD (Recycle a Device) Club for Ashburton College students.

Student members of this club have been, and are being, taught how to fix donated laptops which will then be donated to members of the school and Ashburton community who need them.

The club had a full day of training on Friday 05 May, learning about the inner workings of laptops, information which is often a mystery to many of us as users!



(Pictured left): A close-up view of the inner workings.

(Pictured below, clockwise from front left): Anna McFarlane, Eliza McKenzie, Corey Burgess, Kris Jamieson.



The club is now operating weekly, repairing devices, for the rest of the 2023 school year, throughout Wednesday lunchtimes during term time.

Being a part of this club has many values for the students also, in terms of learning valuable tech skills, helping to reduce e-waste, and our community, plus adding a skillset to each CV.

#### Appreciation

The College acknowledges the work of Sarah Jones, Digital Access Co-ordinator, Ashburton District Council, for her work in initiating and co-ordinating this project, and liaising with our College key staff, particularly Digital Information teacher Rob Isaacs. Rob has well-developed skills related to the rebuilding of devices.

Appreciation is extended to firms and individuals who have donated laptops to this very worthwhile scheme.



(Pictured left, left and right): Leah Thomas and Genevieve Felton beginning on their task.

(Pictured below, clockwise from the left): John Pura, Gloria Masih, Hiro Koizumi engrossed in their next stage.



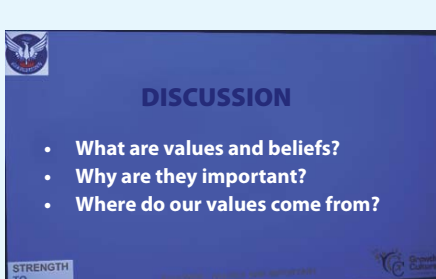
Term Dates 2023 –			
Term Two	Monday 17 July	-	Friday 30 June
Term Three	Monday 25 August	-	Friday 22 September
	(Note: Friday 25 August-Mid Term Break)		
Term Four	Monday 09 October	-	Thursday 26 October (Year 13)
		-	Tuesday 31 October (Years 11/12)
		-	Tuesday 12 December
			(Years 9 and 10)

#### Year 12 Leadership Programme

During Week 2 of Term 2, a selected group of Year 12 students took part in a Leadership Programme that was facilitated by Growth Culture called 'Strength to Strength'. In the words of Growth Culture, the organisation 'exists to breathe life into leaders and to enable them to create cultures where everyone can thrive'.

Head of Senior School Abbey Bruce said that, in today's rapidly changing world, the development of student leadership has become an essential aspect of education. Encouraging students to become effective leaders not only benefits their personal growth but also has a positive impact on their academic achievements, social interactions, and future careers.

By providing opportunities for students to develop leadership skills in Year 12 we look to have this increase their leadership capacity in Year 13.



- What are values and beliefs?
- Why are they important?
- Where do our values come from?

During the five-day course undertaken at College, from 01-05 May, students completed workshops that looked at Values, Trust, Relationships, Teamwork, G.R.I.T and Time Management.

(Pictured below, left to right): Discussing their topic and preparing to write their outcomes on to sticky labels, for further analysis, are Jack Ellis, Jordy McGillen, Bree Greer, Sara Sheppard, Lorraine Paterson, Madi Tourle.



(Pictured right, front to back): Precise teamwork underway. Naomi Taeauga Mafiti, Emori Balenaisa, Ripena Umaga Vaeila, River Fuluasou.

The week concluded with the students presenting a change project that they would like to lead this year to further develop our Ashburton College environment.

Abbey said that this is only the start of the journey for these students, and we look forward to seeing what they can achieve this year and next.

#### Athletic Successes for Kalyam Chalmers

2023 Canterbury Secondary Schools' Road Race, Christchurch, Kalyam finished in 8th place from a field of thirty-four competitors, in the Boys' Under 16 event.

Kalyam completed the 3km event in a very respectable time of 10 minutes 18 seconds, which he was pleased with as it was his first cross-country race after taking a month off training. This is a positive result also given the fact that Kalyam is still under 15 years.



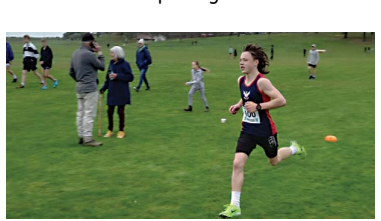
(Pictured left): Kalyam in action around North Hagley Park.

3rd Placing in Southern Schools Cross-Country  
This event was held at Timaru Ashbury Park on Sunday 28 May. Again competing in the Boys' Under 16 age group, Kalyam was described as having a very good race, being very pleased to finish in the medals after a slightly slow start over a very hilly and soft track.

Kalyam's 3rd placed time was 11 minutes, 8 seconds for the 3km distance.



(Pictured left, and below): Kalyam with his medal, and showing the speed which resulted in his 3rd placing.



### Congratulations

#### Student Successes

In this newsletter we acknowledge some further events and successes, as advised in last week's newsletter, which have been happening over past weeks.

#### Fine Results at New Zealand Secondary Schools' (NZSS) Trampoline and Double Mini Championships

Four Ashburton College students competed in the above Championships held at Olympia Gymnastic Sports in Christchurch, over the weekend of 29-30 April.

Head Coach Nicci Glanville said that the girls did an awesome job over a very long two-day competition, despite coming to it following a three-day outdoor education hike. Nicci suggested that, for Jamie Glanville going straight into a 8:00am start was probably not the best, but she handled it well despite achy muscles and an extremely sore knee!

#### Results were very positive, being:

##### NZSS Trampoline, 13-14 Years' Women

- 1st Finleigh Glanville
- 6th Laura Stanley
- 8th Addison Judd

##### Double Mini Trampoline, 13-14 Years' Women

- 1st Finleigh Glanville
- 5th equal Addison Judd, Laura Stanley

##### Trampoline, 15-16 Years' Women

- 4th Jamie Glanville

##### Synchro, 15-16 Years' Women

- 1st Jamie Glanville and Finleigh Glanville

##### Synchro, 13-14 Years' Women

- 3rd Addison Judd and Laura Stanley



(Pictured right, with their medals and certificates (back row, left and right): Finleigh Glanville and Jamie Glanville. (Front row, left and right): Addison Judd and Laura Stanley.

### Coming Events

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

June	
09	Year 11-Year 13 Barista Training, Ashburton District Council Phoenix Chorus, Big Sing Festival, Christchurch Town Hall
	Year 11-Year 13 and Merit/Excellence – UCANDO Study Skills Seminar, Auditorium
	South Canterbury Secondary Schools' Boys'/Girls' Basketball Winter Competition, Southern Trust Events Centre, Timaru
	South Canterbury Secondary Schools' Junior Girls' A Basketball Competition, Pioneer Sports Complex, Christchurch
11	* Aoraki Senior Secondary Schools' Basketball Championships, Timaru
13-15	Ashburton Schools' Music Festival, Ashburton Event Centre
13	* Aoraki Secondary Schools' Cycling Champs, Timaru
	Sports Exchange vs Burnside, Burnside High School, Christchurch
	Junior Boxing Programme, Mid Canterbury Boxing Academy
	Basketball – Senior Boys and Girls, Junior Boys, Christchurch
14	College A Netball, SuperNet Competition, Christchurch
	Rugby Girls' 1st XV v St Kevin's College, Pleasant Point (6:00pm)
	Rugby Girls' Under 15 v St Kevin's College, Pleasant Point (4:45pm)
15	Aoraki Girls' Football, Timaru
15-16	Purahi (Brightest Star in Orion Constellation, and very visible in Hakarete Ashburton), Ashburton Museum
16	South Canterbury Secondary Schools' Boys'/Girls' Basketball Winter Competition, Southern Trust Events Centre, Timaru
	South Canterbury Secondary Schools' Junior Girls' A Basketball Competition, Pioneer Sports Complex, Christchurch
	Mid Canterbury Combined Hockey 2nd XI, Forster Park, Rolleston
17-18	NZ Secondary Schools' Cross-Country, Palmerston North
	South Island Secondary Schools' Swimming Championships, Invercargill
18	* Roncalli Year 9/10 Netball Tournament, Timaru
19	Year 13 Nursing Taster Day, Ara Christchurch