



### Message From The Principal

#### College Closure Last Friday

Last Friday we were closed for a Recovery Day. This closure was approved by our Board of Trustees in an effort to ensure that our staff could keep providing quality service during these unique and challenging times.

The latest COVID outbreak has been with us all term and the challenge of keeping the school still running is significant.

To help your understanding we have teachers who are organising face-to-face teaching, but also providing online material for those in isolation. They also face the challenge of catching up for those who are just returning to school (who may or may not have completed work at home). Additionally, many of them are setting additional cover work for classes of colleagues who are on sick leave and unable to do so.

The holidays will be welcome and hopefully provide a circuit breaker for the infection.

#### Aon Rowing Maadi Cup

Last week we had a small team competing at the Maadi Cup. Several of the regular squad had contracted COVID and thus were unfortunately unable to compete.

Rowing New Zealand has been very responsible with their rules regarding 'Return-to-Play'. There is considerable science around the harm to recovery caused by rushing an athlete back into full competition. Spare a thought for those students who have been training for twenty hours plus per week, and then were unable to attend Maadi.

My thanks is given to Coach Justin Wall and the parents who supported our team.

#### AshColl COVID Update

Just a very brief update re COVID here at AshColl. Even though the current outbreak has been with us all term, we have still had less than 30% of our total student population test positive.

The real challenge has been around covering classes for absent staff. At its peak we had eighteen teachers absent (not all with COVID) and, without the rostering home of year levels, we wouldn't have been able to cover all lessons.

#### Consultation Process – NCEA Level 1

We are in the early stages of a comprehensive consultation process to consider if Ashburton College will retain NCEA Level 1 as the primary driver for our Year 11 students.

This is a discussion which is taking place in secondary schools and their communities around New Zealand.

We will be consulting with our staff, current and former students, parents/caregivers and employers.

#### As part of this process we will host several hui.

The first of these will be on **Tuesday 31 May, at 7:00pm.**

Venue (physical or online) will be advised closer to the time.

There will be other hui at different times of the day to suit members of our community, and we encourage you to attend one of these to gain information and provide feedback.

#### Rebuild

As many of you have observed, our new build has begun. The first step is to relocate the Phoenix Pre-school Inc to the other side of our campus. Once they have the formal consents to occupy their new building they can begin the relocation process, with the aim of this being completed by the end of May.

Following this, the current Phoenix Pre-school building can be demolished and our new thirty-two classroom block will begin its build later this year. We await the start of the build process with much anticipation.

**Ross Preece**  
Principal • Tumuaki



### Information

#### Outward Bound New Zealand – Funded Courses Available For Students With a Physical Disability

**Outward Bound New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation offering personal development courses in the outdoors for New Zealanders, young and old.**

Their courses are run from their school in Anakiwa in the Marlborough Sounds.

Outward Bound say they are excited to offer two new fully-funded courses for youth with a physical disability.

**The Outward Bound NZ Youth Activate Course is scheduled for 10-17 May 2022.**

*If you are interested, go online and check whether spaces are still available or not.*

**The second course is later in the year -**

**OUTWARD BOUND NZ - LEAPS & BOUNDS ACTIVATE**

**The fully funded Leaps & Bounds Activate 8-day course is for physically disabled youth (13 to 16yrs) and their parent or caregiver. The next course date is 10-17 October 2022.**

[Find more information about Leaps & Bounds Activate here \(put these words into your browser\).](#)



### Events

#### Target Achieved for Student Executive Ronald McDonald 'House to House' Charity Event

**Friday 25 March drew this specific fundraising effort to a close with senior students rostered to cycle from 9:00am-6:00pm outside McDonald's Ashburton, in the car park.**

Deputy Head Boy Millar Newlands, Head of the Ambassador Committee Alex Bateman, Board Student Representative Chinatsu Hunt and Head Boy Jack Brown were busy from 8:30am setting up the gazebo, equipment, sign board and the bike.



(Pictured above, left to right): The first shift of the day with Chinatsu Hunt on cycling duties, and Alex Bateman and Skyla Cramond, ready for action.



(Pictured right): Alex and Skyla were soon joined by Salatielu Iakopo.

The 9:00am-3:00pm slots essentially coincided with the school day structure, and students' study periods; with the rostered timeframes covered by Alex Bateman, Chinatsu Hunt and Head of the Student Cultural Committee Tielu Iakopo, and Skyla Cramond; Millar Newlands and Head of the Community Services Committee Zane Cameron for a double slot; Jack Brown, Head Girl Jorja Roulston and Head of the Sports and Recreation Committee Lusungu Mbambo; Student Executive Secretary/Treasurer Claudia Thomas; Head of Environment/Canteen Committee Amelie Robertson; Head of Student Welfare Committee Campbell McBride and Head of the AshColl Way Committee Jonathon Kilgour; then a repeat run for Claudia, Amelie and Campbell.

The 3:00pm-6:00pm slot was filled by Campbell teaming up with Head of the Ball Committee Henry Wallis, and Tielu Iakopo; while Millar, Campbell and Henry were on pack-up duties after 6:00pm.

During the day some additional Year 13 leaders were able to join the rostered-on students.

### Events

#### Target Amount Received

Head Student Jorja Roulston said their day down at McDonald's fundraising was very successful! Over the course of Friday they raised an additional \$900, and ended up reaching their fundraising goal of \$2000 which, Jorja said, 'is absolutely awesome!'

The donation page, at the time of writing this article, was currently sitting at \$2015, inclusive of the \$550 that was raised alongside the money for Taylor Doyle's surgery on the College's non-uniform day.

#### Fundraising for Taylor Doyle

From the non-uniform day held on 01 March, and additional donations, \$1200 was able to be put to the fund to support life-changing surgery in Sydney for Year 10 Taylor Doyle.

#### Appreciation

**Jorja said 'we are so incredibly grateful for all of the support that we have had from both students and the wider community over the past three weeks, to help us reach this goal!'**

#### Outdoor Education - Year 11 Hike to Mt Somers

**Over the days of 23-25 March, the Year 11 Outdoor Education class went on their first hike for the year.**

Head of Outdoor Education Luke Martin said that, fortunately, even with COVID around, the trip was able to go ahead and most of the class was able to make it. The trip involved a three-day hike around Mt Somers, staying at both the Pinnacles and Woolshed Creek huts.

Luke claimed this as one of the best hikes locally. Considering summer is nearly a distant memory the weather was great for the group, which made the trip that much more enjoyable. In fact, they had perfect hiking weather, with some predicted rain not eventuating.



(Pictured above): The class having a final rest stop before reaching Pinnacles Hut, in the background.

(Back row, left to right): Noah Curwood, Josh Pitney, Dave Walker, Jack Bull, Katie Ashworth, Hannah Joyce (observed), Tayla Davidson, Gracie Trotter, Hayley Smith, E-J Elliott, Poppy Jemmett.

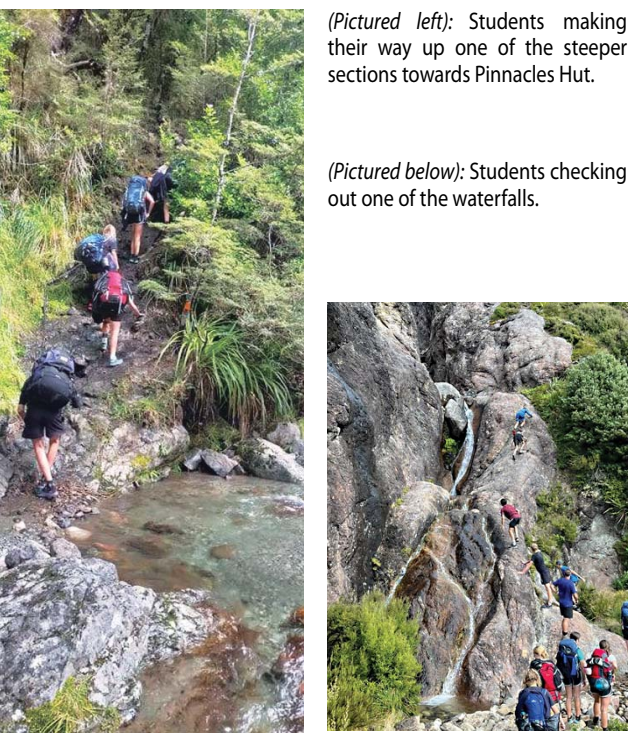
(Front row, left to right): Sean McArthur, Will Watson, Elliott Ward, Charlie Scammell, Zac Douglas, Keagan Nel.

**The first two days** made for some challenging but shorter days, giving the students time to iron out any issues that arose - from poorly-packed bags, straps that needed adjusting, and figuring out a pace that everyone could walk comfortably and stay as a group.

**By Day 3** the students had these minor issues all sorted, which was good timing as the last day was the 'biggie'. This was an eight-hour hike back to the Sharplin Falls carpark, from Woolshed Creek Hut.

Staying in the huts gave everybody the chance to rest up and enjoy a few card games or, for the mountain goats of the class, a chance to explore around the area. A dip in the Emerald Pool proved cold but refreshing, after arriving at Woolshed Creek Hut.

Luke summarised that it was great to see all students improve their hiking skills over the three days, and take on board advice from each other as well as learning from their own mistakes.



(Pictured left): Students making their way up one of the steeper sections towards Pinnacles Hut.

(Pictured below): Students checking out one of the waterfalls.

### Forthcoming Events

**Please note: dates are as at the time of publishing. Alterations, due to COVID Omicron level restrictions will be advised to relevant groups as soon as details are known.**

<b>April</b>	Year 10 Outdoor Education Hike 2, Peel Forest
<b>07-08</b>	Auckland University Liaison zoom, 10:15am-11:10am
<b>09-10</b>	New Zealand Secondary School Trampoline and Double Mini Champs, Auckland
	Senior Girls' Basketball pre-season tournament, Southern Trust Events Centre, Timaru
<b>11-12</b>	Year 10 Outdoor Education Hike 2, Peel Forest
<b>12-14</b>	Homework Hub, 4:00pm-5:30pm, Ashburton Public Library
<b>13</b>	Mates and Dates
	University of Canterbury Liaison Zoom meeting, 12:30pm
<b>14</b>	Year 13PED Duathlon, Allenton Rugby Club/Ashburton River
	<b>Final day of Term 1</b>
<b>15</b>	Good Friday
<b>18</b>	Easter Monday
<b>19</b>	Easter Tuesday
<b>23-24</b>	South Island Secondary Schools' Adventure Racing, Kaikoura
<b>25</b>	ANZAC Day
<b>26-28</b>	Hockey Boys' 1st XI pre-season tournament, Trust Aoraki Hockey Turf, Timaru
<b>May</b>	
<b>02</b>	Start of Term 2



### Events

#### Marine Sciences Biology Trip for Imogene Felton

Information provided by Imogene Felton

This month I was thankful to be able to go on a biology trip to the Marine Sciences Centre in Portobello, with my online biology class.

*The Marine Studies Centre provides a window into marine research at the University of Otago. It showcases local marine life and offers marine education programmes for all ages, offering unique hands-on marine experiences.*

Under current COVID circumstances, I was only able to attend through my NetNZ online class.

NetNZ is a community of secondary and area schools from across New Zealand who work together to provide online learning opportunities for their students, based on the New Zealand Curriculum.

NetNZ's mission statement recognises that, above all, it specialises in innovative education regardless of location: to develop an environment for sustained innovation and development of quality, online learning experiences, for anyone, anywhere across New Zealand and beyond.

Ashburton College's Teacher Librarian and eDean Anne Williams, is a member of the NetNZ Board.

It was a wonderful experience and I am so glad to have met some of the awesome people I see on my computer screen every week.

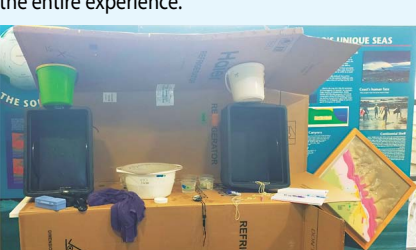
We learned how to conduct safe and ethical experiments, before moving on to conduct our own experiments on live Half-Crabs, *Petrolisthes Elongatus*, to gather data and write reports for internal assessment later on.



(Pictured above): Surveying crab populations on the beach outside Marine Sciences Centre.

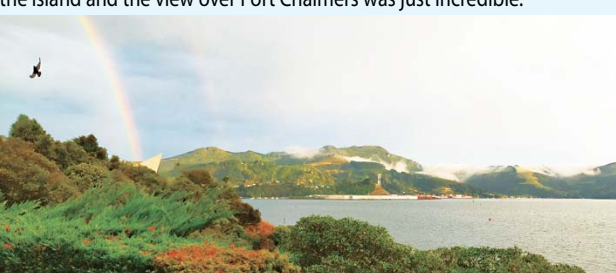
I focused on the kinesis response to light intensity in Half-Crabs, investigating whether-or-not the crabs demonstrated greater movement under brighter conditions where they would be more visible to predators.

The Centre provided ample resources and amazing instructors who helped us along the way. I also have to include a quick thanks to the reception staff who let me build a box fort in the lobby for my experiments! We also had the support of our online teacher, Ms Arkless, and each other throughout the entire experience.



(Pictured left): Box fort setup for testing crabs, in the Marine Centre lobby!

When we weren't meddling with crabs, we stayed in a lodge on Quarantine Island, just a few hundred metres by boat from the Marine Studies Centre. Along with our time working at the lab, we had some great experiences on the island and the view over Port Chalmers was just incredible.



(Pictured above): One of the amazing views over Port Chalmers, from Quarantine Island.

Overall, it was an unforgettable experience, and I am extremely grateful to have been able to go and meet so many awesome people.

*The Marine Studies Centre provides a window into marine research at the University of Otago. It showcases local marine life and offers marine education programmes for all ages, offering unique hands-on marine experiences.*

### Congratulations

#### Summer Sports Tournament Week

**This annual event had fixtures scheduled from Sunday 27 March through until Sunday 03 April. While there were a number of cancellations due to COVID restrictions, it was superb to have some codes able to hold events.**

We report on some of the sports in this newsletter and, in next week's newsletter, we will carry reports of the Aon Maadi Cup and Aoraki 3 x 3 Basketball. Some competitor numbers were also impacted on as can be seen through the reports.

### Congratulations

#### Aoraki Futsal Competition

**Held on Tuesday 29 March at the Southern Trust Events Centre in Timaru, the AshColl Mixed Team came away with four wins from four games.**

Futsal is an association football-based game, a variation of mini football played on a hard court which is smaller than a football pitch, and mainly indoors.

It has similarities to five-a-side football and indoor soccer. Futsal is played between two teams of five players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper.

#### Team members were –



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Boaz Drye, Elliott Ward, Kingsley Olawale, Logan Scammell, Ashton McGrath, teacher Duncan McKee.

(Front row, left to right): Alastair Kilgour, Sarah Mattson, E-J Elliott, Hayley Smith, Jonathon Kilgour, Solomon Bagenda.

The team played in the Festival Grade which, with a significant number of teams having to withdraw, left five teams to contest the grade.

Duncan said the players showed good sportsmanship and skill, for a team playing together for the first time.

Special mention was made of **Sarah Mattson's** cold-blooded hat-trick within four minutes, which concluded with a shot through the keeper's legs.

#### Results:

While this grade was essentially an 'experience' there was no formal winner or presentation. However, Ashburton College won all four games – against Ashburton Christian School (14-0); Waimate High School (8-2); and two close games against Mt Hutt College (3-1 and 4-3).

Duncan is hopeful there will be further opportunities for students to get involved in Futsal this year.



(Pictured left): Solomon Bagenda lining up to score a goal, with Elliott Ward (left) in support, in the game against Ashburton Christian School.

#### Aoraki Secondary Schools' Golf Croquet Championships

**This event took place on Thursday 31 March at the Waireka Croquet Club grounds, Ashburton.**

Seven teams were involved, with Ashburton College represented by **Alice Homer** and **Jessalene Eclipse** (pictured right, left and right).

Coach/Manager was Gail Benseman.

Gail said the fact that the event took place at all was appreciated by all competitors, who enjoyed playing within the very even competition.

The College pair always played as a team; thinking and talking about their actions and, like all the teams, had to suffer the lack of practice opportunities leading up to the event.

Alice and Jessalene's competitive play did not always show in their results as their attempts to gain hoops on the day didn't go as well as usual. However, it was a positive and worthwhile outing.

Gail summarised by saying that it was great to see all teams taking more control of their games and, by the last rounds, they required little support from the supervising referees.

#### Results

Alice and Jessalene won three of their six games, including the game against the eventual winning team. This result stopped the winning team from having success over all teams.

The Ashburton College Team finished fourth in the round robin event, which saw close competition amongst the three regional competing schools.

#### Final placings in the top four were:

1st	Mount Hutt College 2
2nd	Mount Hutt College 1
3rd	Mount Hutt College 4
4th	Ashburton College.

The remaining team from Mount Hutt College, and two teams from Timaru Boys' High School filled the remaining three places.

It is hoped that next year the event will be able to return to a bigger competition, with more schools participating.



#### Aoraki Secondary Schools' Golf Festival

**This tournament was held at the Highfield Golf Course in Timaru, on Monday 28 March, with five teams attending - Waitaki Boys' and Timaru Boys' High Schools, St Kevin's and Roncalli Colleges.**

Team Coach/Manager Liz Cabout said that, in addition to the teams' competition, less experienced golfers were given some lessons and then played in an informal Ambrose Competition. Sam Orr participated in this.

#### The College Team Members were –



(Pictured above, left to right): Sam Orr, Seb McMillan, Mitchell Lye, Mitchell Leath, Olly Prince.

#### Individual Results

##### Mitchell Leath

**2nd equal** in the net competition, with a net score of 69.

Both finished with net 74

Had the best gross score for Ashburton College, with 88.

##### Mitchell Lye and Olly Prince

##### Seb McMillan



(Pictured above): Second equal place-getter Mitchell Leath in action.



(Pictured right): Seb McMillan, best College gross score.



(Pictured above, left and right): Mitchell Lye and Olly Prince.

#### Team Results.

Timaru Boys' High School were overall winners with the best Team Gross of 248, and best Team Net of 211.

### Forthcoming Events

#### Term Dates 2022 –

<b>Term One</b>	Monday 02 May	- Thursday 14 April
<b>Term Two</b>	Monday 25 May	- Friday 08 July
<b>Term Three</b>	Monday 02 July	- Friday 30 September
<b>Term Four</b>	Monday 17 October	- Year level final dates to be advised, but final days for Years 13, 11 and 12 likely to be in the week beginning 31 October; while Year 9 and 10 students' final day is Thursday 08 December.

