



Message From The Principal

Term One Progressing

Our term has progressed rapidly, and our senior students have settled into classes very well.

The emphasis on internal assessment in all subjects requires our senior students to be organised and to plan well ahead. Often there are multiple assessments due about the same time, and this requires significant planning. Those who are tempted to 'leave it to the last minute' often come to grief.

An attribute we are fostering at College is connectedness. This includes students staying in touch with staff and their peers, to make sure they have allocated enough time for each assessment.

Time and Commitment

Speaking of allocating time, at the end of this week our large rowing team is off to compete in the Aon Maadi Cup at Lake Karapiro. I am full of admiration for these athletes due to the self-discipline they must exhibit to be part of this sport. Being up early every morning and then having to push yourself through pain barriers is a challenge for anybody. Our rowers who finish the season have certainly exhibited the spirit of Kia Kaha (be strong).

It is also appropriate to acknowledge rowing coach Justin Wall for the countless hours he has committed to our rowers. The other heroes are our rowing parents. As with many sports groups, this group undertakes considerable fundraising and logistical support for our rowers. Their ethos is to ensure that rowing is an accessible sport for any student from Ashburton College. This isn't the case in many other schools.

In future newsletters we will be updating outcomes for a number of sports competing in the schools' Summer Tournament Week.

AshDance

Last week we held AshDance at College. This is always a wonderful celebration of our diversity as a College. Every performance gets rousing support and for these events we clearly need a bigger venue!

Ako Interviews

My thanks to all those parents and caregivers who attended the Ako interviews last Wednesday. These are a key feature of maintaining an effective home-school partnership. If there is a positive relationship between the student, the home and their Ako teacher it greatly enhances outcomes and support.

Canterbury Polyfest 2023

Last weekend we had eighty students performing at the Canterbury Polyfest. This is the first time this event has been held in North Hagley Park, chosen due to increased participant numbers.

Our group is noted for its size, the quality of their performance and that the dancing and singing is led by our senior students. The other feature of our group is that our performance includes Tongan, Samoan and Cook Island students. Nearly all of the other schools have performance and attire based on Samoa.

New Build

In terms of our new build, Rangitata is closer to having a roof in place, which will be welcome with autumn underway.

Those of you who drive down Belt Road will have noticed a new fenced-off access onto the building site. This will be in place until both Rangitata and Block 2 are completed.

This will mean that home rugby games must be held at club grounds until the build project is completed.



Ross Preece
Principal - Tumuaki

Information

Ashburton College Pasifika Fono Evening

Please note: Change of Date

Due to unforeseen circumstances

This is now being held on **Thursday 30 March, College Staffroom, 5:00pm - 6:30pm.**

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.

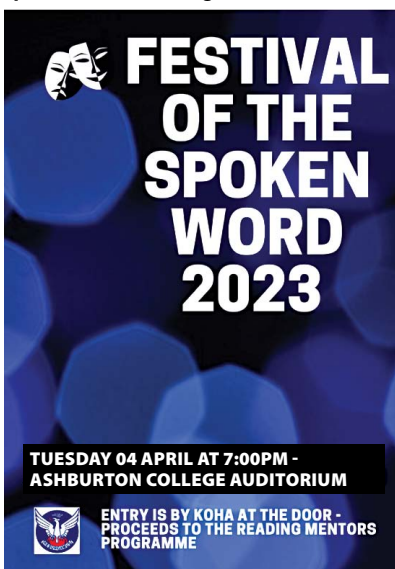
We are keen to share information and ideas with you all.

(Emails have been sent to families).

Light refreshments will be provided.

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

As advised in last week's newsletter we continue our focus on this celebration assembly, presentations and student committee groups.

2023 Deputy Head Students' Inaugural Speeches

In this newsletter we acknowledge the 2023 Deputy Head Students' Speeches, who also noted the privilege they felt at being in their roles, saying how much they were looking forward to working with students and staff.

Olivia Pearce, Deputy Head Student

What is Something you Regret?

Olivia opened with the challenging statement above, saying there are always things we wish we could re-do.



For her, a personal but small regret looking back is that she wished she had participated in more of the extra activities – such as triathlons and muddy good runs.

Olivia said she set herself a personal goal for this year, being 'To think how the decisions I make today are going to affect me tomorrow' saying this was something she wanted all students to think about too.

What are the risks?

The challenges given out were:

- if choosing to skip that extra revision, can it be guaranteed that the results are going to be an outcome to be proud of?
- by not trialling for a sports team, will this be a future regret?
- by not participating in an out-of-comfort zone activity that may seem a little scary, will this opportunity be offered again?

Goal for students for 2023

Olivia suggested this goal as being to 'take control of the decisions that will affect your life tomorrow, to step out of your comfort zone and take risks'. Ask yourself if you will be proud of the decision made today when you look back tomorrow.

With this, came the reminder that, in trying new things and taking risks, there's a chance of 'mucking it up, and that's okay'. Students were reminded that everyone will fail at something and that we can't be perfect all the time.

Try Again and Grow

Importantly, the small chance of failure shouldn't be a barrier to trying new things. We can all learn from our failures and they help to make decisions in the future that lead to successes.

In closing, Olivia wished everyone all the best for the year to come, hoping they would take risks and challenge themselves so that, this time next year, they could look back at 2023 and be proud of things achieved.

Congratulations

Seb McMillan, Deputy Head Student

Opportunities

Seb's opening highlighted Ashburton College as a school, a community, a home, and one that screams opportunity.

Described was that an opportunity is a time or set of circumstances which make it possible to do something. Noting 'coming into the light of 2023' from the past few years, he was certain that it is possible for us as a College to strive for our own individual excellence, and endeavour to be involved in many of the opportunities which present to students.

Trying New Things

Seb emphasised that trying new things is paramount to being a successful person, saying that it builds a complete human, one to be proud of. His story was that 'when I was a junior student here at College, I was never a 'try-everything' student, I had things which I had grown up with my whole life, and stuck with'.

Seb advised that it wasn't until he reached his senior years that he started to get involved and put himself out there. A feature of this was that, not only did this make school more enjoyable for him, but it allowed him to develop skills and abilities that he was never aware of.

Challenge

He challenged students to step out of their comfort zone and introduce something new every day, saying we never know where it may take us. To the students he said 'and if you are not the type of person open to doing so, take small steps to get there'.

In Conclusion, Seb said that nobody is asking you to be a Formula 1 driver, but you can start by driving your mother crazy with your Learner's Licence, while she sits with her hand on the handbrake in absolute terror.

So, get out there, try new things and, most importantly, have a great 2023.

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, for them 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.

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.

There is a huge range of leadership opportunities available to senior students and we introduce you to those who have been successful in gaining a student leadership role and thank them for their willingness to work towards positively involving students and activities across the College.

Student Executive Committees

Each of these committees is led by a member of the Student Executive and each committee becomes a student leadership group in its own right.

As a part of succession planning and continuity, all committees have Year 12 representatives on them, otherwise the balance of students are in Year 13.

Ambassador Committee



(Back row, left to right): Aili Sebastian and Ella Rickard (Year 12 representatives), Jessica Hayman, Mia Braidwood (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Joelle Watson, Amelia Harris (Co-Captain), Cassie Chamberlain.

Arts Committee

This is a new student committee, introduced this year.



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Jordis Double, Hayley McQuillan-Ross, Simone Forster Lobato de Faria. (Front row, left to right): Maria Lawn (Committee Head), Laura Mihailescu Bogdan. (Inset, left and right): Leah Thomas (Year 12 representative), Hannah White.



Congratulations

AshColl Way Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left and right): Rachel Hoekstra (Year 12 representative), Alice Homer; Leigha Fletcher and Mahalia Scarlett (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Hershel Ranay, Gianna Butler (Committee Head), Lilly Naughton (Year 12 representative).

Ball Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Madi Tourle (Year 12 representative), Sophie Smith, Poppy Jemmett (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Alexia Wilson, McLeod Sherratt (joint Committee Heads), Andreea Ciora.

(Inset): Lorraine Paterson (Year 12 representative), Maddy Soal.

Community Services Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Brooklyn McHaffie, Mouna Uluapano, Jasmine Galos and Chloe-Lyn Edwards (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Janelle Galos, Angela Ciora (Committee Head), Zoe Cribb (Year 12 representative).

Cultural Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Freedom-Lee Gleave, Oliver Davies, Rere Strickland, Cecilia Vaaelua.

(Front row, left to right): Ripena Umaga Vaeila (Year 12 representative), Orpah Sildo, Edelm Kelsall (Committee Head), Sera Ula.

Environment/Canteen Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Laura Jensen, Tim Connelly-Whyte; Jordy McGillen (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Ashley Gee (Year 12 representative), Laura Cameron (Committee Head); Talitha Nel and Sai Sukumar (Year 12 representatives).

Sports and Recreation Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left and right): James Stocker, Nuku Penisoni, Holly Ngutu (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Laura Walsh, Eva Kelly, Isabel Wall (Committee Head), Zac Douglas (Year 12 representative).

Student Welfare Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left and right): Charlotte McKenzie; Ruby Robinson, and Emily Simons (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Jess Thomas, Amy Waldron (Committee Head), Chloe Robinson.

(Inset): Henry Goodes.

House Executive Committees

Underway are the House Executive Committees, leaders and members of which do an excellent job of engendering House spirit and encouraging involvement for House points, all as part of the focus of lifting the coveted House Trophy at the end of the year.

As with the Executive Committees, House Committees also have Year 12 representatives as part of succession planning and continuity, otherwise the balance of students are in Year 13.

We introduce the House Committees, with their Staff House Leaders:

Blue House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Staff Head of House Stacey Monk, Sam Orr, Hamish O'Reilly, Will Rollinson, Lara Shierlaw.

(Front row, left to right): Molly McKenna, Kasey Higson, Eddie Galbraith (Co-Captains), Sienna Skilling (Year 12 representative), Zeahn Otene.

(Inset): Jack Ellis (Year 12 representative).

Green House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Staff Head of House Courtenay Soper, Lily Williams, May Penjuell; Rose Vannini and Emori Balenaisa (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Shelley Cossey (Year 12 representative), Jack Jones, Grace Prendergast (Co-Captains), Harmony Shea, Teagan Clark.

Orange House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Cedrick Orena, Georgie Poole; Tamsin Cartney and Sophie Gibson (Year 12 representatives).

(Front row, left to right): Staff Head of House Pete Lee, Alla Forrester, Jack Templeton (Co-Captain), Holly-Jayne Feutz (Year 12 representative).

(Inset, left to right): Laura Winchester (Co-Captain), Max Lambert-Lane, Izzy Harris (Year 12 representative).

Red House Committee



(Pictured above, back row, left to right): Olivia Fox (Year 12 representative), Jack Middleton; Emily-Jane Elliott and Honor Bradford (Year 12 representatives), Staff Head of House Georgia Hurley, Hannah Digby (Year 12 representative).

(Front row, left to right): Denise Mae Jerao, Sama Soialo, Emma Lill (Co-Captains).

(Inset, left and right): Ollie Bubb, and Lani Fifta.

Coming Events

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

March
24 Year 13 AGH Results Analysis
27 Year 13 Chemistry trip to Ravensdown and Lincoln University
27-30 Poipoi te Pitomata Health and Safety, Hakatere Marae
NZ Secondary Schools' Tennis Championships, Wilding Park, Christchurch

28 Year 12 Hospitality training visit, Hotel Ashburton

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, Postponed

April
01 * TSNZ Smallbore Postal Challenge

